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**To:** ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)  
**Date:** 2/1/2023 11:40:33 AM  
**Subject:** Granville Connector – Transportation Improvements - Feb 1, 2023  
**Attachments:** ENG - PDB - ICNLR - Comms - Memo to Mayor and Council - Construction - 2023-02-01 FINAL.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire regarding the Granville Connector Construction. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Construction of the Granville Connector to begin February 2023.
- Includes the installation of new pedestrian and cyclist connections across the Granville Bridge and removal of the north Granville Loops to create a standard street grid layout.
- Two lanes of traffic will be retained on Granville Bridge in each direction throughout construction. Some temporary lane and street closures and detours will be in effect to facilitate construction.
- When required, traffic flow and transit routes in and out of downtown will be retained via the Howe Street and Seymour Street ramps.
- Media will be invited to a technical briefing on the project led by Director of Transportation Paul Storer on February 8, 2023. Mayor and Council will also be invited to attend and listen in should they wish.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca).

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
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City of Vancouver  
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## MEMORANDUM

February 1, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Kareem Allam, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office  
Trevor Ford, Director of Operations, Mayor's Office  
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office  
Paul Storer, Director of Transportation, Engineering  
Jerry Evans, Director of Real Estate Services

FROM: Lon LaClaire  
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Granville Connector – Transportation Improvements

RTS #: N/A

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Starting February 2023, construction will begin on the first phase of the Granville Connector. This project includes the installation of new pedestrian and cyclist connections across the Granville Bridge and removal of the north Granville Loops to create a standard street grid layout.

This project will transform the way people use the bridge by creating a safe, accessible, and convenient connection for all modes, setting the stage for future improvements. This work is expected to complete in fall 2024.

### **Project Benefits**

Originally designed for high-volume freeways that were never built, the Granville Bridge has presented barriers to mobility, including no safe cycling connection or accessible sidewalk.

To improve safety and accessibility across the bridge, two west-side travel lanes will be converted to walking, rolling, and cycling. The project will add new traffic signals, wayfinding signage and a car-free pedestrian and bicycle connection to the Arbutus Greenway by making traffic changes on the south end of the bridge, see Figure 2. The replacement of the north Granville Loops with

a new street network on the north end of the bridge will create new opportunities for housing and local services on the City-owned land currently occupied by the loops.

## **Schedule**

Construction will be carried out by the City's contractor, Pomerleau. This project is planned to start in February 2023 and is anticipated to be complete by fall 2024.

The approximate sequence of work will be as follows;

- Demolition of the east loop complete Q1/Q2 2023
- North end water/storm/sanitary/road construction, Q1/Q2 2023 - Q1 2024
- Demolition of the west loop complete Q2 2023
- Demolition of the north bridge structure complete Q4 2023
- Complete and open the new "north end road system" Q1/Q2 2024
- Substantial completion of Granville Bridge Connector Q2/Q3 2024
- Total completion of Granville Bridge Connector Q3/Q4 2024

Please note these are approximate timelines and could be subject to change. Mayor and Council will be notified if schedule deviates significantly from the above, due to unforeseen events.

## **Traffic Management**

Two lanes of traffic will be retained on Granville Bridge in each direction throughout construction. Some lane and street closures will be in effect to facilitate construction including;

- Early 2023 – East loop closure
- Spring 2023 – West loop closure (will be replaced with at-grade road network)
- Summer 2023 to fall 2023 – temporary Granville Street closure between Drake St and the Howe/Seymour ramps. Vehicles and trolley buses will be detoured to the Howe and Seymour ramps, which can accommodate anticipated traffic volumes. (See Figure 1 for details during construction).

Traffic detour signs and traffic control personnel will be on-site to manage traffic and assist pedestrians around the construction site.

## **Background**

In September 2020, Council endorsed the long-term design concept for the Granville Connector and directed staff to proceed with the interim Granville Connector construction.

Replacement of the Granville Bridge north loops with an at-grade road network has been part of City plans since the late 1990s. City Council adopted the Granville Loops Policy Plan in 2010, and in 2022 approved the rezoning of these lands, at 625-777 Pacific Street and 1390 Granville Street to create new opportunities for housing and local services.

The Rezoning supports buildings heights between 12 and 40 storeys, with approximately 900,000 square feet of residential floor space in a mix of strata-titled, rental and social housing units and a child care facility.

## Public Communication

Communication tactics for this project include:

- Advance notification letters to residents and businesses;
- Meetings/check-in sessions with the local neighborhood, residents, businesses, BIAs and key stakeholders along the project corridor as needed;
- Project signage for people walking, cycling and driving in the area;
- Project website and newsletter allowing for regular project updates;
- Day-to-day support of area businesses and residents provided by community/stakeholder liaison;
- Media news releases at key project milestones;
- Social media through the City's various channels

Project inbox: [granvilleconnector@vancouver.ca](mailto:granvilleconnector@vancouver.ca)

Project website: [vancouver.ca/granville-connector](http://vancouver.ca/granville-connector)

If you have any questions or would like more information on this project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.



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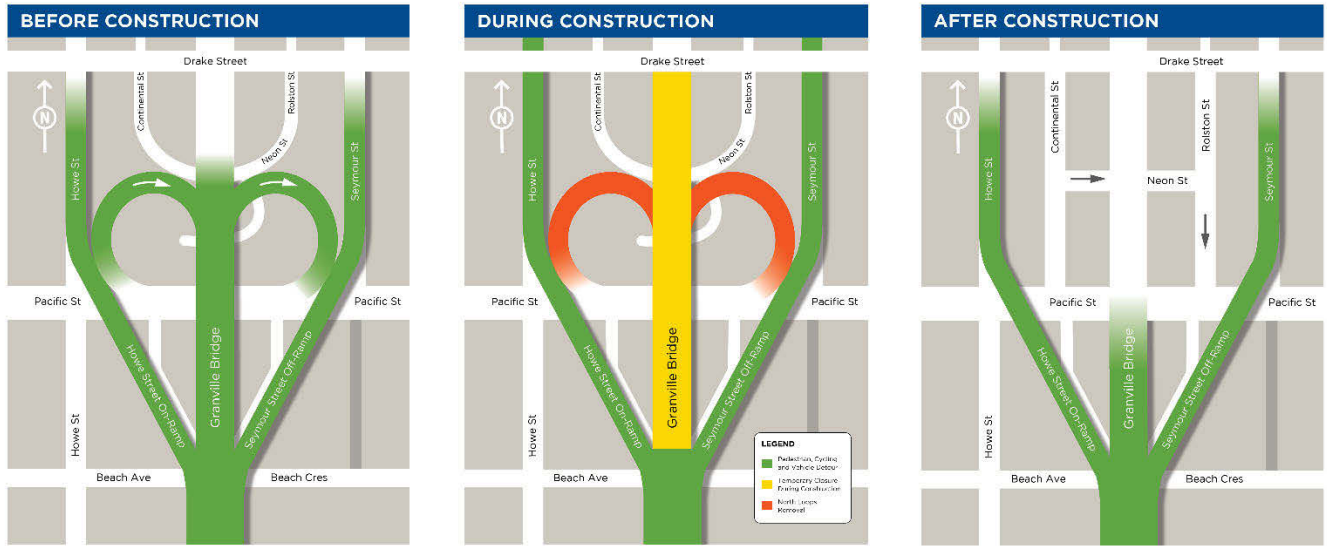


Figure 1



Figure 2