

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 3/27/2023 10:01:59 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming news release: Sewer renewal starts in Hastings-Sunrise (March 27, 2023)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

As noted in the project memo shared on Monday, March 13, staff will be issuing the below news release announcing the start of Phase 2 for the Hastings Sunrise Sewer Renewal and Green Rainwater Infrastructure Project.

Staff have elected to issue a news release for this portion of the project as it involves significant traffic impacts (from Tuesday, March 28 to July 2023, with anticipated brief reopening of lanes between April 2-7) due to lane closure along E. 1<sup>st</sup> avenue.

The release flags the traffic impacts for the public while highlighting the need for sewer investments, how these types of investments support development and environmental goals, and linking back to our capital delivery plan.

Social media posts are planned — please feel free to share and amplify via your accounts.

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

**March 27, 2023**  
**News release**  
**City of Vancouver**

## **Sewer renewal starts in Hastings-Sunrise**

Starting tomorrow (March 28), the City will be launching phase 2 of a major green rainwater infrastructure and sewer renewal project in Hastings-Sunrise. The project is part of the City's current Capital Plan which maps out significant investments in Vancouver's infrastructure and amenities.

Traffic on East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue will be reduced to one lane in each direction from Windermere Street to Lillooet Street until July 2023 to ensure this work can be completed safely and efficiently.

"Upgrading our sewer system is essential work that protects public health and allows our city to grow and adapt," says Mayor Ken Sim, "This project directly addresses Vancouver's infrastructure deficit; allowing for more housing to be built while making our sewers more resilient in the face of climate change and extreme weather events."

The project advances the provincial regulatory requirement for the City to eliminate combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by 2050. Separating combined pipes in the Hastings-Sunrise area will help reduce

contributions to Vancouver's second-highest CSO location, the Cassiar outfall at New Brighton Park. Other phases of the project will also incorporate green rainwater infrastructure (GRI). GRI uses engineered soil and plants that work with the built environment to naturally capture and clean rainwater, helping to prevent pollutants carried by rainwater from entering waterways and reducing the volume of rainwater entering our pipe system.

Vancouver has legacy combined sewers that were designed for a different climate. Combined sewers carry both sewage and rainwater in the same pipe. When they are over-capacity during heavy rains, a mixture of rainwater and sewage, called CSOs, is released into receiving waterbodies like the Burrard Inlet. CSOs can harm aquatic species and contribute to swim advisories on beaches.

### **Plan ahead and expect delays**

- Primary traffic impacts will be on East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue between Rupert St and Renfrew St. Crews will work to re-open travel lanes whenever possible to mitigate impacts; watch for signage changes as work progresses.
- Sewer work on East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue is expected to be completed by July 2023.
- Partial lane closures will likely impact traffic flowing from the TransCanada off-ramp onto East 1<sup>st</sup>. [Find out about ongoing construction work using our road ahead map](#) and plan an alternate route if possible.
- Construction will generally take place Monday to Friday, from 7am to 5pm and on weekends as needed.
- Avoid short-cutting through surrounding neighbourhood streets as they are not designed for high volumes of traffic.
- If you are driving, please keep an eye out for traffic control signage.
- If you are walking or rolling, traffic control personnel will be on-site to manage traffic and assist pedestrians around the construction site.

[Learn more about the project online](#) or by emailing [hastings-sunrise-upgrades@vancouver.ca](mailto:hastings-sunrise-upgrades@vancouver.ca).

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