

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 9/6/2023 10:23:18 AM
Subject: Upcoming information bulletin: City asking for feedback on corner stores and more (September 7)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Following on the memo you received this morning from Theresa O'Donnell, I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin on September 7 regarding the start of public engagement on small stores in residential neighbourhoods (aka corner stores). This public engagement program advances Council direction on further work to support neighbourhood grocery stores and other small-scale neighbourhood businesses as part of the Vancouver Plan and Complete Neighbourhoods program. Please keep this information bulletin embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account at 10 am on September 7.

Maria will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links, once these are live.

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 səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
Information Bulletin
September 7, 2023

City asking for feedback on corner stores and more

Small stores in residential neighbourhoods are historic and cherished assets in our communities, so the City of Vancouver is launching a public engagement program to explore ways to support and possibly expand these kinds of businesses.

Often known as corner stores, these businesses are typically located in residential areas away from main commercial streets. Existing shops currently offer food, groceries, services or speciality items. Corner stores provide a convenient way for people to access goods or a distinctive neighbourhood place to grab a coffee, gather with friends, and socialize. These stores also provide an important small-scale space for entrepreneurs, supporting a diverse and vital local economy.

Starting today, a public survey and additional information are available on the City's Shape Your City engagement site at shapeyourcity.ca/corner-stores.

The survey is open until October 10, 2023 to gather feedback on how residents feel about corner stores and potential opportunities for expanding uses, locations, and building types. Everyone can also map their favourite corner stores on the website and share stories about their experiences with them.

Feedback gathered through the survey will be used to inform future policy and regulatory changes expected to take place in 2024. Results from this engagement process will be available later this year.

Corner stores contribute to the City's goal of creating complete, connected, and culturally vibrant neighbourhoods and support our objectives around improving access to daily needs, as outlined in the City's [Climate Emergency Action Plan](#) and the [Vancouver Plan](#).

Background

Currently, there are approximately 88 active businesses operating as corner stores in Vancouver. Approximately 40 per cent are neighbourhood grocery stores and 60 per cent are other types of businesses.

In 2020, a [Council motion](#) advanced quick start actions on zoning changes to support existing businesses operating as neighbourhood corner grocery stores. The changes were [approved in January 2021](#) and next steps were outlined for further work to support neighbourhood grocery stores and other small-scale neighbourhood businesses as part of the [Vancouver Plan](#) and [Complete Neighbourhoods](#) program.

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