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To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**

Date: 10/5/2023 6:14:12 PM

Subject: Memo to Mayor and Council - Granville Street Planning - Phase 1 Engagement Summary

Attachments: Granville Street Planning - Phase 1 Engagement Summary - Vision and Objectives 09.2023.pdf
Memo to Mayor & Council - Memo - Granville Street Planning - Phase 1 Engagement Summary Steps.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached is a memo and report on Phase 1 Engagement for the Granville Street planning process.

Key highlights of Phase 1 engagement include:

- Collected over 10,300 comments and had over 190,000 interactions from the online survey and twenty-one events.
- Feedback has been positive with strong support for the proposed vision statement and objectives for Granville Street and the Granville Entertainment District (GED).
- Priorities include the protection and enhancement of arts and culture spaces; more patios and places to sit, gather and celebrate.
- Concerns regarding safety and the perception of safety remain a priority in the area.

Best,
Paul

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City of Vancouver
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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.

Phase 1
Engagement Survey
Vision and
Objectives



Granville
Street
Planning

shapeyourcity.ca/granville

Granville Street Planning

Phase 1 Engagement Summary
Vision and Objectives



Land Acknowledgement

xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh, səliłwətał

The City of Vancouver humbly acknowledges that the lands on which Granville Street is situated on are the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh, and səliłwətał, who have inhabited these lands since time immemorial.

The term unceded recognizes the dispossession of the land and the inherent rights that the Nations hold to the territory, including those endorsed under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Through the Granville Street Planning program and its implementation we will work with xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh and səliłwətał Nations to build on the City's commitment to Reconciliation. We will strive to incorporate recommendations that honour the lives, cultures, languages and peoples of this land through our work, while actively working towards tangible reconciliation objectives.

There are a number of resources available to learn more about the historical and current relationship the Nations have with the land which is now known as the City of Vancouver. Their websites contain plentiful information about their histories, cultures, governance, and ways of affirming their continuity on these lands:

Musqueam Indian Band:

musqueam.bc.ca

Squamish Nation:

squamish.net

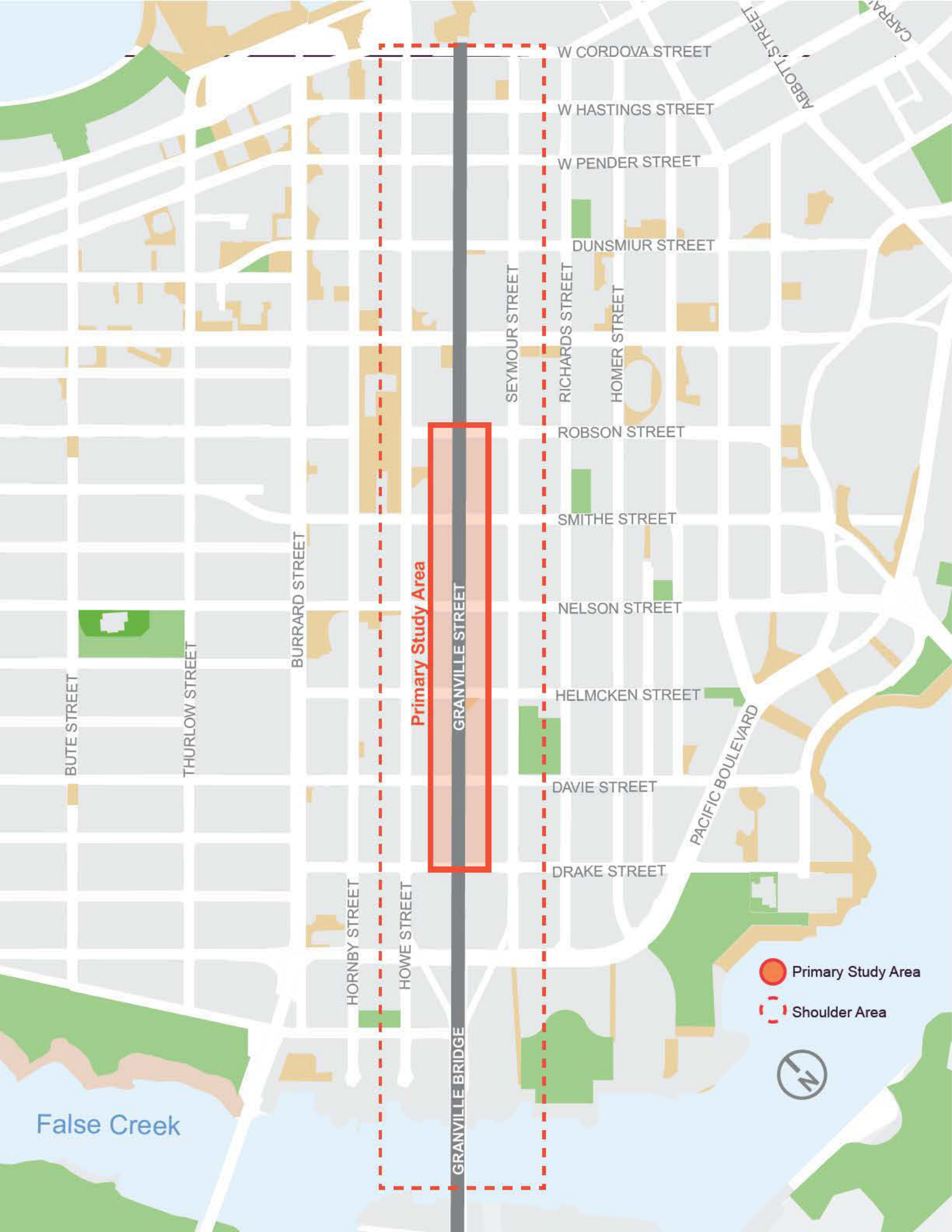
Tsleil-Waututh Nation:

twnation.ca

Please visit our website to learn more about Vancouver's designation as a City of Reconciliation and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil- Waututh Nations:

vancouver.ca/people-programs/city-of-reconciliation.aspx

vancouver.ca/files/cov/First-Peoples-A-Guide-for-Newcomers.pdf



Help us design and create a new and improved Granville Street

Together, let's celebrate and imagine the future of Vancouver's main street and entertainment district as an exciting, welcoming, safe, and inclusive downtown destination that is alive with activity, day and night.

Granville Street Planning process

A new plan for Granville Street will re-establish Vancouver's entertainment district and premier main street as an exciting, welcoming, safe, and inclusive downtown destination that is alive with activity 24 hours a day /7 days a week /365 days a year. The Granville Street Planning process will protect and strengthen job space, expand tourism, consider a bold new public space, advance reconciliation and support arts and culture in Vancouver, including a vibrant night time economy.

On June 1, 2023 the City of Vancouver launched the Granville Street Planning process that will help guide future development, public space, and economic and cultural opportunities in the area.

<p>Phase 1 Confirm Vision and Directions</p> <p>Spring-Summer 2023</p>	<p>Phase 2 Draft Policy Directions</p> <p>Fall-Winter 2023/24</p>	<p>Phase 3 Finalize Policy Directions</p> <p>Spring-Summer 2024</p>
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How can I get involved?

-  shapeyourcity.ca/granville-street-planning
-  3-1-1
-  granvilleplan@vancouver.ca



There are multiple ways to share your thoughts and ideas. Visit our website for more information.

Phase 1 engagement summary

This report summarizes the key findings that were gathered through multiple engagement activities, between June 1 and August 31, 2023, including: in-person public and stakeholder workshops, youth roundtables, public walking tours, sessions with non-profits, neighbourhood pop-ups, and an online survey. These findings have helped us shape an exciting new vision for Granville Street and will inform emerging policy directions as we move into Phase 2 of the project.

A detailed summary of the input received from the community survey can be found in a separate document on the website.



Granville Street Planning

Engagement Highlights



What we heard

- » 77% of participants agreed with the proposed vision and objectives for Granville Street
- » Desire to protect and enhance arts and culture spaces on Granville
- » Strong support for more patios and places to sit
- » Wide support for more activities on Granville catering to a broader demographic
- » Support to pedestrianize Granville Street
- » Desire for more vibrant neon signage and lights
- » Desire for more flexibility in licensing and uses/zoning
- » Concerns regarding safety
- » Significant lack of access to adequate affordable housing, shelters and overnight social services

- 3 things you like best about Granville St**
- performing arts
 - bustling energy
 - pedestrian-friendly feel

- Top 5 activities you do on Granville Street**
- shop
 - attend a live show
 - eat at a restaurant
 - meet up with friends
 - go to a bar

- 5 things you want to see more of**
- patios
 - live performances
 - public spaces to sit
 - outdoor festivals
 - street vendors

- Key concerns with Granville Street**
- safety
 - cleanliness
 - homelessness
 - lack of day-time uses
 - vacant storefronts



Developing a new vision

In January 2023, Vancouver City Council gave the go-ahead to develop a new vision for Granville Street, the city's premiere high street and main entertainment district in downtown Vancouver. A draft vision for the future of Granville Street was developed, tested and refined through the first phase engagement of the Granville Street Planning process, including input from our community partners and direction from Council.

What we heard

Safety is important to people, and we want to ensure it is identified in the vision statement.

Survey Feedback

"Address safety explicitly."

"To touch base on welcoming, the downtown core needs to feel safe. Safety should be number one."

A New Vision for Granville Street – Eclectic and Electric

Located in the heart of Downtown, Granville Street is Vancouver's 24/7/365 destination!

Granville Street is the place to work, stay, visit and play. It's a welcoming, *safe* and inclusive entertainment and cultural district where performance, creativity and heritage inspire innovative businesses, creative retail and dining experiences, bustling tourism, and a diverse night time economy.

Vancouver's gathering place for celebration, cultural expression and social activity, Granville Street attracts locals and visitors from around the world – making the place shine bright, day and night, all year long.

Key Objectives and Emerging Directions

The Vision will be delivered through six key objectives:

1. SAFE AND WELCOMING

Foster a safe, welcoming and inclusive district that meets the needs of equity-deserving communities, in partnership with the organizations that support the area.

2. ARTS AND CULTURE

Strengthen Granville Street's cultural role as an arts, entertainment, dance, music and live performance hub by retaining, improving and expanding cultural spaces.

3. PUBLIC SPACE AND TRANSPORTATION

Establish Granville Street as a place for all people to enjoy and participate in public life by enhancing it as a central gathering place and public space destination with a range of activities at different times of day, throughout the week and year, connected by a safe and accessible walking and transit network.

4. ECONOMY AND TOURISM

Grow, enhance and diversify Granville's unique economic potential, by expanding job space, retail, dining, and tourism.

5. BUILDINGS, HERITAGE AND CHARACTER

Build upon Granville Street's unique high street and heritage character with innovative new forms of development that create a distinct and exciting urban experience.

6. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Identify long-term solutions to improve housing options and liveability for existing residents of Granville Street, while protecting residents from potential impacts of increased activity in the interim.

Reconciliation

As a City of Reconciliation, we will seek to prioritize and support self-determined xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵw̓xwú7mesh, səliłwətał naming, culture and visibility throughout Granville Street and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

We will be working with xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̓xwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, to determine how reconciliation objectives can be woven throughout the planning process and its implementation.



1. Safe and Welcoming

Foster a safe, welcoming and inclusive district that meets the needs of equity-deserving communities, in partnership with the organizations that support the area.

Who we talked to

- » City staff hosted focused workshops with service providers in the Granville Entertainment District (GED), with attention given to the social service sector and/or those with lived/living expertise.
- » The general public, with a predominant number of survey responses coming from housed individuals (over 95%), who have a household income surpassing \$80,000 annually.



87% of survey participants said they felt 'unsafe' or 'uncomfortable' on Granville Street.

What we heard

- » Safety was a key issue for survey respondents
- » We heard about concerns specific to gender safety and the night-time economy, and a strong desire to create a safer and more inclusive nightlife
- » Survey respondents shared that homelessness and open drug use create unease or discomfort
- » Very few survey respondents reported experiencing or witnessing incidents of violence or harassment
- » Early findings from the focused workshops indicate a significant gap in services including a lack of access to shelters and affordable housing, overdose prevention services, rapid access to mental health supports, safer transportation options, funding for street teams, a sobering space, and an overnight drop-in centre for survivors of violence; all of which need to be culturally safe and accessible
- » Focused workshop participants highlighted the need for increased community based solutions that would improve outcomes for those experiencing health inequities
- » We heard that some concerns about safety are the by-product of structural inequities related to intersecting crises: the housing crisis, the drug poisoning crisis, and a mental health crisis

Good Night Out Annual GED Safety Survey Report
Violence and harrassment experienced is most often gender-based, racist, homophobic, and/or transphobic in nature (Source: Good Night Out, 2022, Annual GED Safety Survey Report)

Emerging directions

a. **Prioritize programs that support gender-based and overall safety:** Partner with non profit organizations, healthcare partners, and equity-deserving groups to address safety needs.

Survey Feedback: "When people leave the bar between 1 and 3 am. There are just too many drunk aggressive people (usually men) looking for a fight or looking to pick up a woman last minute. Its very unpredictable. I have been cat called, groped, followed, yelled at, shoved, and I was minding my own business just trying to get to the skytrain."

b. **Partner with community in the long-term care and management of the area:** Work with community organizations, equity-deserving groups and businesses within the Granville Street Entertainment District to manage public spaces and the kinds of activities that take place.

What we heard
Open drug use indicates a lack of accessible services. We will be partnering with community organizations to find community based solutions to improve access and support services.

c. **Safer transportation at night:** Examine strategies to make transportation safer within the Granville Street Entertainment District at all hours of the day.

What we heard
There are significant challenges with people accessing diverse transit options and getting home safely, especially at night. We will be exploring strategies to make travel safer, easier and more accessible, specifically focusing on the needs of marginalized genders.
Survey Feedback: "Lack of transit when nightclubs/ bars are closed."





2. Arts and Culture

Strengthen Granville Street's cultural role as an arts, entertainment, dance, music and live performance hub by retaining, improving and expanding cultural spaces.

What we heard

Strong support for Positioning Granville Street as a Cultural District, specifically:

- » Prioritizing Reconciliation, Equity, & Accessibility
 - Self-determined cultural spaces, public art and visibility, for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh nations, and urban Indigenous communities
 - Prioritizing cultural spaces and public realm design that supports safe, inclusive, and equitable access for all
- » Ensuring no net loss of cultural spaces
 - Protect/enhance existing venues (e.g. Orpheum, Commodore, Vogue theatre, Dance Centre)
- » Expanding cultural spaces and activities
 - Replace "lost music venues," prioritize cabaret style small (100-200 capacity) and medium (200-400 capacity) venues
 - Overwhelming support for live outdoor performance (e.g. the Shipyards) space! (e.g. stages, washrooms, power)
 - Pilot a special events zone with lower regulatory barriers
 - Support spaces for ethno-specific events, galleries, festivals, comedy, expanded daytime and nighttime offerings and all-ages/family focused cultural activities

Important cultural spaces that were highlighted for preservation and enhancement:

- Commodore
- Orpheum
- Vogue
- Scotiabank Dance Centre
- Robson Square



Emerging directions

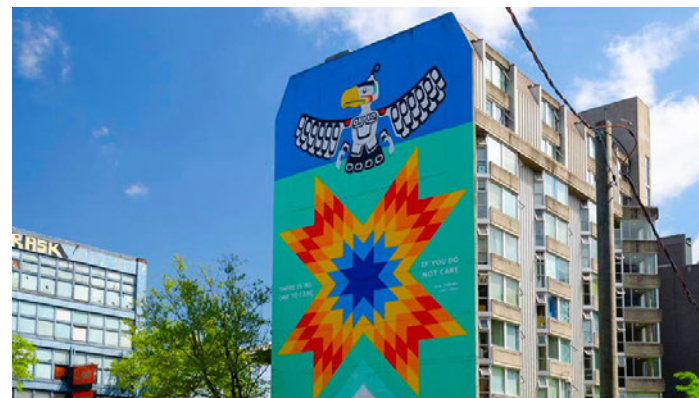
a. Position Granville Street as a Cultural District.

Survey Feedback: “I believe that Granville Street is a hub of cultural activities, especially performing arts. Would be great to see that creativity hub encouraged.”

“It would be interesting if the whole Granville Street was a hub for entertainment and culture, right now it feels only a very short area actually represents that (from Nelson to West Georgia I think). I think it would be interesting if the whole street had different ways of exploring culture [...]”



b. Prioritize self-determined cultural spaces, public art and visibility, for x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, and urban Indigenous communities.



c. Equitable spaces: Prioritize cultural spaces and public realm design that supports safe, inclusive, and equitable access for all, particularly for community members from marginalized groups.

d. Acknowledge and celebrate the cultural heritage of the area, particularly related to historic arts and culture activities. Ensure cultural spaces reflect living and historical communities that have been or are being erased

Survey Feedback: “The Sugar Refinery was one of my favourite old haunts. You had to go upstairs and kind of be in the know [...]. Also there was an experimental jazz club in the alley at 1067 Granville. I miss the eclectic feeling of the old street.”

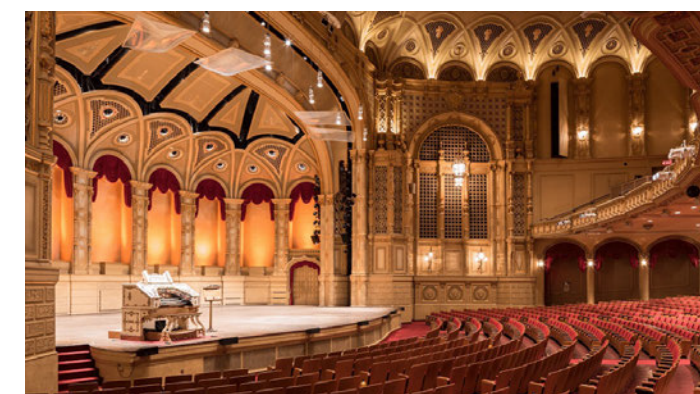


e. Ensure universal design and accessibility in places and cultural spaces that supports differently abled artists, cultural workers, and audiences.



f. No net loss of cultural space: Protect and enhance existing arts and cultural venues and spaces (e.g. Orpheum, Commodore, Vogue Theatre)

Survey Feedback: “The Vogue, the Commodore, the Orpheum are the cornerstones of Granville Street. I also love the dance centre and Harbour Dance Centre. I miss the theatres on Granville Street.”



g. Diversify cultural experience: Support new arts and culture spaces that support a diversity of cultural activities and art practices (e.g. music and live performance venues, ethno specific events, galleries, festivals, comedy).

Survey Feedback: “A communal space for arts and cultural events that is operated by the city would be fascinating to see.”

“I’m a musician so more spaces that help expose the local music scene to the average citizen would be so lovely.”



h. Develop public space that supports outdoor performances and events (e.g. create a Granville Street special event zone)

Survey Feedback: “Block street parties that are for all age types. Granville BIA previously hosted weekly summer parties with performances and children activities. While children can be entertained, adults can play too.”

“Having festivals, live performers, movable and changing public art that showcases the diversity and talents of locals would be great for tourists and locals alike.”



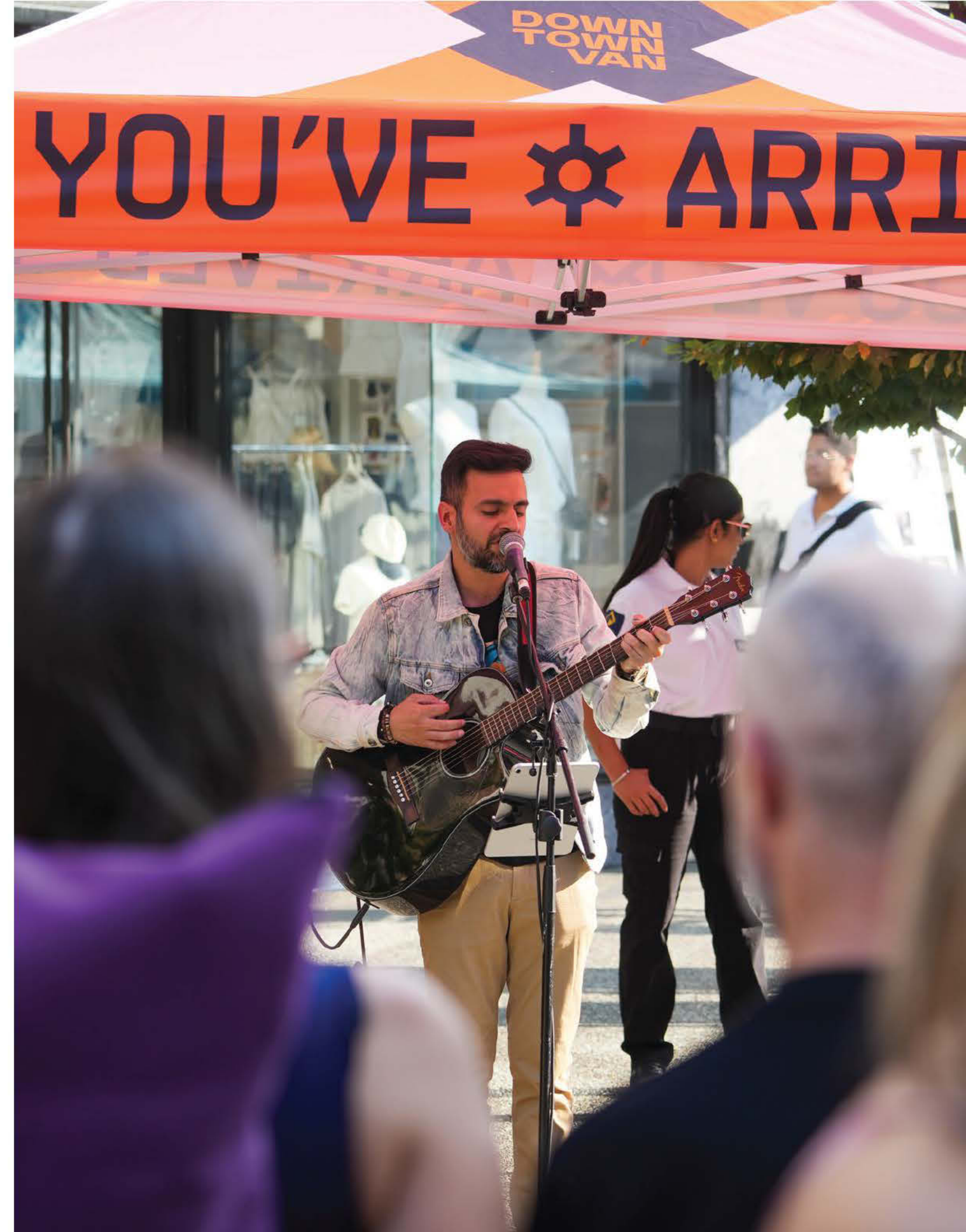
i. Encourage expanded nighttime offerings including all ages and family-focused events

Survey Feedback: “I miss the old theatre and arcades that used to be downtown. With the arcades and restaurants, The Capital 6 and Granville 7 were an exciting destination for a movie night.”



j. Incentivize retention, replacement, enhancement and creation of arts, cultural, and music spaces through supportive policy and tools (e.g. development incentives) to support local, community-led cultural space projects.

Survey Feedback: “The historical theatres and performance spaces are important to me. The Orpheum, Commodore Ballroom and Vogue are great spaces. It would be nice to see their external structures renovated/refurbished a bit to match the upkeep of the interiors.”



3. Public Space and Transportation

Establish Granville Street as a place for all people to enjoy and participate in public life by enhancing it as a central gathering place and public space destination with a range of activities at different times of day, throughout the week and year, connected by a safe and accessible walking and transit network.

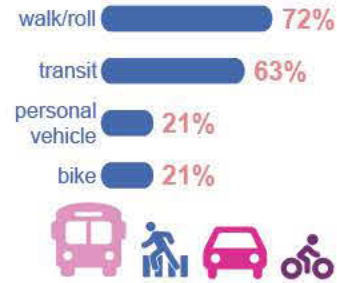
What we heard

- » Strong support for a people-focused destination, and increasing the street space dedicated for pedestrians & gathering
- » Desire for more public seating, gathering/plaza spaces and restaurant patios to add vibrancy to the street
- » Safe and convenient transit service is a key part of a 24/7 destination
- » Wide support for more events, festivals and outdoor performances
- » Desire for more diverse and family-friendly daytime activities and programming
- » Concerns over cleanliness and safety, in both daytime and nighttime
- » Interest in more street trees, greenery, and public art

Favourite space, experience or memory
 Theme **PUBLIC SPACES**
 Love the mixed use park for the neighbourhood - wish there were activities/events here.

Issues that we should know about
 Theme **Walkability**
 The street can be better for pedestrians, side-walkers not wide enough

Top ways people get to Granville St



What people want to see more of:

- patios
- trees/green spaces
- places to sit
- more programming
- public washrooms
- weather protection

Emerging directions

a. Respond to and enhance the public life of a 24/7 entertainment district: Consider how the street can support the daily and nightly needs and activities of a 24-hour entertainment district, including services for gender and racial safety.

Survey Feedback: "I like the energy of lots of people out to have fun. I love to go to shows at the Commodore Ballroom and The Vogue, and eat something from a food truck after."



b. Flexibility for programming and activities at different scales: Make the street adaptable for everyday, smaller-scale activities like busking and food vendors, as well as large-scale events, festivals, and celebrations throughout the year.

Survey Feedback: "More art events and festivals, like quality street performances, on-street theatre or music, more road closures to allow pedestrians in the street in the day."



c. Expand and enhance public space: Explore different options for increasing the amount of space within the street that is available for public use and different activities. Create permanent, temporary, and/or time-specific spaces for gathering, relaxing, and outdoor performance.

Survey Feedback: "I would be over the moon for Granville Street to feel like a new "City Square," and for it to be a real promenade."



d. Improve on-street amenities: Improve accessibility and comfort through street furniture and other amenities including thoughtfully located seating, washrooms, bus shelters, water fountains, bike racks, lighting, litter cans, kiosks and street trees. Provide access to electricity to support food vendors and events. Provide space for restaurant patios to add vibrancy.

Survey Feedback: “Have more clean and safe outdoor public spaces for people to relax...”

“More public washroom accessibility & green spaces!”

“More patios along Granville would make it feel more lively and safe!”



e. Strengthen the character and experiences along the street: Design the street and public spaces to reflect and support the unique qualities, uses, and activities on each block.

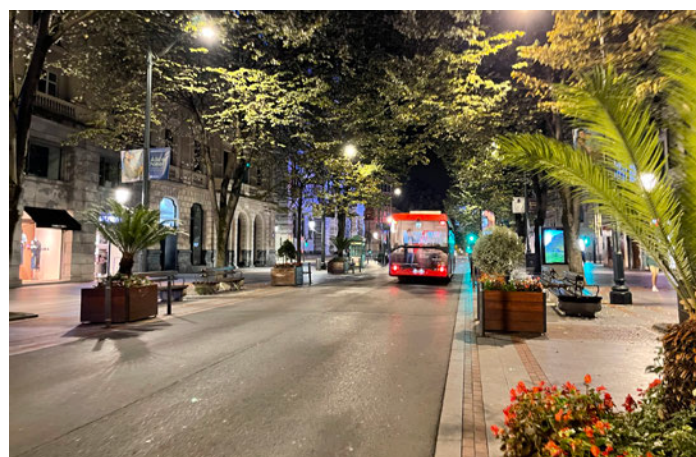
Survey Feedback: “Permanent parklets, integrated frontages (there used to be more shops with really great storefronts on the 800 block in particular).”

“More public art, better planting and general public realm improvements (pedestrianization, squares and plazas).”



f. Explore the potential to eliminate private vehicles on Granville downtown and consider shifting transit to adjacent streets: Work with TransLink and other interested parties to explore several options including: limiting private vehicle access to a single block; extending the transit mall further south; and making the district vehicle-free – relocating buses to adjacent streets.

Survey Feedback: “Converting a block or two to car-free streets with a public plaza with an outdoor performance space would be more welcoming to all.”



g. Provide high-quality transit service: Work with TransLink to provide fast, frequent, reliable, and easily accessible transit service to the area at all hours of the day.

Survey Feedback: “Safe and clean, with convenient transit extending into late-night hours.”

“Better public transit, more live venues, longer skytrain schedules. Washrooms and Neon lighting.”



h. Provide safe and comfortable space for active travel: Provide clear, accessible sidewalks for walking and rolling. Consider cycling and micro-mobility (e.g. e-scooters) access to SkyTrain stations and destinations along Granville.

Survey Feedback: “More neon signs would be cool! I would also love to see some cool plazas, better pedestrian and cycling wayfinding + sense of place, and well-demarcated cycletracks.”



4. Buildings, Heritage and Character

Build upon Granville Street's unique high street and heritage character with innovative new forms of development that create a distinct and exciting urban experience.

What we heard

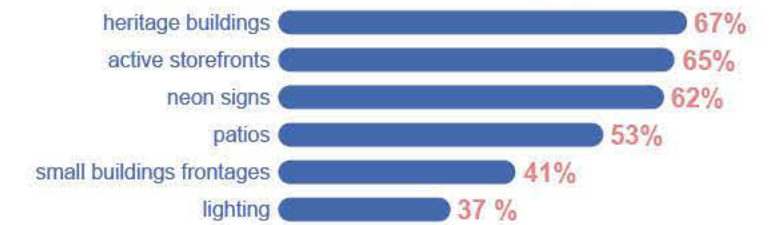
- » Support for heritage preservation and a need to uplift the cultural aspects of heritage
- » Desire for new development, but done in a way not to detract from the existing historical buildings
- » Desire for more cultural and entertainment uses in the building design
- » Strong support for patios (including rooftop patios) and active frontages that feel inviting
- » Broad support for neon signage and vibrant lighting
- » Desire for character features that highlight Granville's role as a destination entertainment district

Emerging directions

a. Preserve the unique heritage character of Granville Street: Conserve heritage buildings and explore compatible innovative ways to re-use heritage buildings and uplift cultural heritage.

- Integrate new building styles with existing heritage buildings that respect and are distinguishable from historic places.
- Incorporate cultural heritage, stories and histories of the place (e.g. uses, stories, people, etc.).

Unique physical or design features that make Granville St enjoyable



What we heard

We heard the need to explore policies that consider the integration of new development with the preservation of the existing heritage buildings and the unique street wall configuration.

b. Provide an interesting pedestrian experience along the ground floors of buildings

- Encourage activities on the ground floor that are visible or open to the street.
- Reinforce the existing pattern of lower heights along the street and provide setbacks for the addition of new buildings above.
- Adopt high quality, visually rich details in lower levels of a building.
- Incorporate patios at all levels of a building that have a direct visual and experiential connection to activity on the street level.



What we heard

We heard the need to incorporate more cultural and entertainment uses into the design of the buildings to reflect the ethnically diverse people who live, work, and play here.

c. Building signage and lighting: Provide for exciting and complementary building signage and lighting, including neon signs, and explore LED signage for an active 24/7 district.

Survey Feedback: "I think the City should bring back neon signs to Granville Street."



d. Highlight important intersections with unique visual design that is noticeable to pedestrians and gateway signage that identifies Granville as a destination (e.g. Robson Street and Granville Street).

What we heard

We will be looking at how we can incorporate gateway signage to reflect the character of each block but also as an entertainment district and a destination that is full of cultural expression.

Survey Feedback: "We need to highlight Granville Street as an entertainment district which can be a gathering place for celebration and social activity."



e. Provide a variety of building forms for visual interest.

Survey Feedback: "I do love the heritage buildings, but it's also nice to see new developments in an area that's supposed to be thriving."



f. Express cultural and entertainment uses within the building design expressing the activity inside the venues, including more Indigenous visibility.

Survey Feedback: "I would like to see more concrete ideas of what could make the space innovative and full of cultural expression."

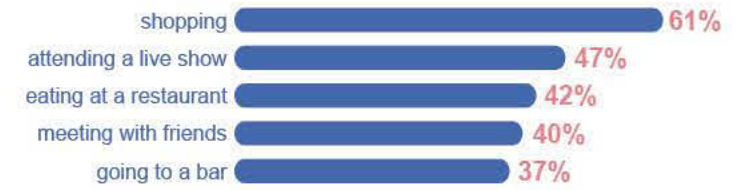




5. Economy and Tourism

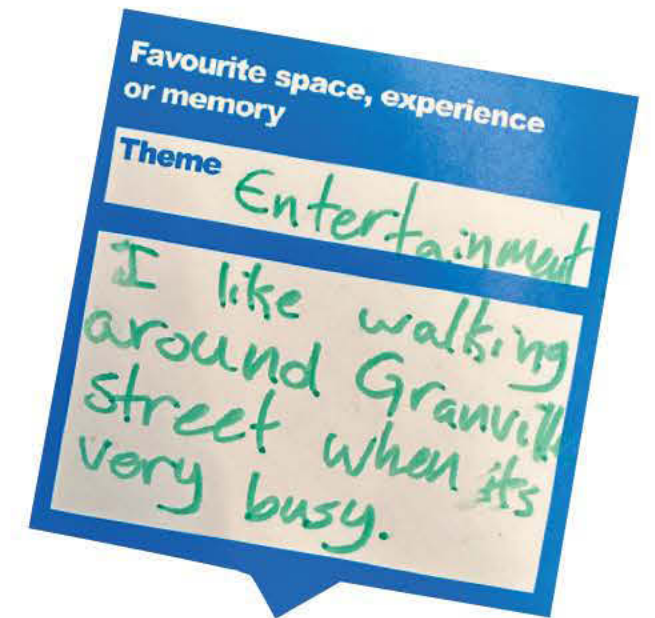
Grow, enhance and diversify Granville's unique economic potential, by expanding job space, retail, dining, and tourism.

Top 5 activities people currently do on Granville St:



What we heard

- » Broad support for hotels and a greater diversity of uses to attract tourism
- » Strong desire to include around the clock activities for a wider demographic and expand beyond the night-time experiences
- » Strong support for new retail opportunities, including activating laneways with street food and vendors
- » Desire for greater flexibility in uses and licensing regulations for restaurants, bars, nightclubs and other businesses
- » Calls for innovative public realm improvements, esp. around activating the street and storefronts



Emerging directions

a. Expand tourism: Increase hotel space in the area and related amenity and services that support tourism in Vancouver.

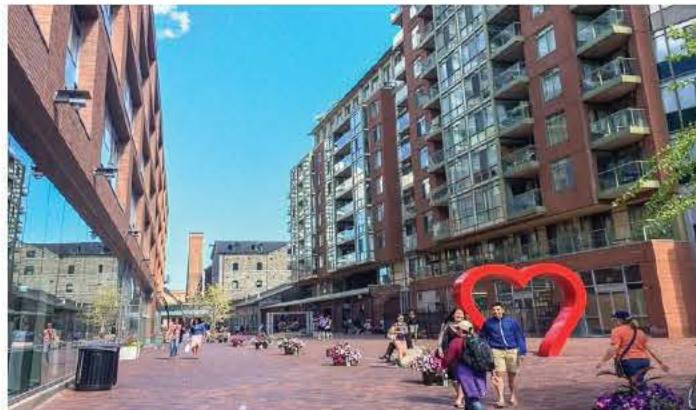
Survey Feedback: "It makes sense to have hotels and hostels on this strip."



b. Expand job space: Intensify office space in the area, including innovative, creative and tech space to encourage more daytime activity.

Survey Feedback: "Make it family friendly and bring in some level of office space, high tech, nice coffee shops and cafe to the mix."

"More building density for non-residential uses, restaurants above ground level, and office space."



c. Increase and broaden daytime and night-time offerings: Encourage new restaurant, dining, bar, and around the clock experiences.

What we heard

There needs to be more around the clock offerings to support a vibrant street during all times of the day, not just at night.

Survey Feedback: "More focus on daytime offerings, offerings for more diverse ages/ demographics."



d. Encourage new retail opportunities, including laneway uses and retail in public spaces (e.g. kiosks and patios).

Survey Feedback: "There are a variety of alleyways that are not being activated. They should be used for street food or smaller vendors."

"More retail storefronts and restaurants"



e. Provide activity throughout the day and night: Encourage multiple activities within a building or a site (e.g., night-club venues below ground, restaurant on the ground / first floor and hotel / office above) and provide greater flexibility in uses and licensing.

What we heard

We are hearing that there should be greater flexibility in uses and licensing for live music/performance spaces. We will work with the licensing team to see how we can better encourage multiple activities within a building (and licensed) spaces.

Survey Feedback: "Easing liquor licensing so people can drink in certain places and can move easier between bars restaurants and venues."

"Flexible entertainment venues."



f. Support businesses and tourism through equitable and accessible public space design: Design the street and public spaces to reflect and support the unique needs of restaurants, venues, retail stores, hotels, offices, and other businesses along the street.

Survey Feedback: "More open storefronts for retail and restaurants, good lighting for nighttime, and buildings/stores designed for people walking by."



6. Affordable Housing

Identify long-term solutions to improve housing options and liveability for existing residents of Granville Street, while protecting residents from potential impacts of increased activity in the interim.

What we heard

- » Many residents have lived on Granville Street (or within the plan area) for a long time and have built important community and social connections within the area
- » Fears of displacement are high for existing residents. Many people currently living in SROs have very limited housing options and are concerned about their ability to find housing elsewhere.
- » Concerns over the building conditions of many existing SROs and the lack of services (including common spaces, and air conditioning) offered by buildings
- » Food security concerns for residents that do not have access to cooking facilities
- » There are limited spaces for residents to socialize on Granville Street: buildings do not have common space, limited public plazas, few places to just “hang out” and limited access to services on Granville Street
- » Safety concerns over interactions with club patrons at night often lead residents to avoid going out in their neighbourhood

Emerging directions

a. No new housing in areas where entertainment activities are anticipated to intensify on Granville Street (e.g., between Davie and Robson).

Survey Feedback: “It doesn’t make sense to have residential areas right on Granville Street, as it is not conducive to living well having so much light and noise. It would be better to have residential areas moved just outside of the area in the future, with more hotel rooms if anything.”



b. Promote liveability in the interim: Prioritize interim actions to mitigate impacts on existing residents of Granville Street.

Survey Feedback: “I’d like to see those in community housing and in the walk up hotels be included in this proposal. I think attending to the hotels that are not in good shape along Granville and are homes for poor folks, needs to be part of what it is to beautify and make more human the situation on Granville Street.”



c. Identify long-term housing opportunities in the broader neighbourhood (outside the entertainment district): Determine long-term solutions to provide adequate affordable housing in partnership with senior levels of government, as well as market rental opportunities in the broader neighbourhood.

Survey Feedback: “ I question the logic of continuing to house vulnerable people in an entertainmet district especially in substandard accommodations.”

“Provide proper support for the unhoused.”



Granville Street Planning

For more information and to provide
comments, please visit the website.

shapeyourcity.ca/granville-street-planning

MEMORANDUM

October 5, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Interim Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Lon LaClaire, General Manager, Engineering Services
Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Service

FROM: Doug Smith
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Memo - Granville Street Planning: Phase 1 Engagement Summary and Update on Next Steps

RTS #: 15410

This memo provides a summary of Phase 1 engagement findings for the *Granville Street Planning* process and an update on key next steps for Phase 2 work.

Phase 1 Engagement

Please find attached the Phase 1 Engagement Summary: Vision and Objectives report for the Granville Street Planning process. This report summarizes the key findings that were gathered through multiple engagement activities, between June 1 and August 31, 2023. These findings have confirmed a bold new vision for Granville Street, and will inform emerging policy directions and recommended actions that will be developed in the next phase of the project.

Key highlights of Phase 1 engagement include:

- Collected over 10,300 comments (in six different languages) and had over 190,000 interactions (in-person and online) from the online survey and twenty-one (21) events.
- Collaborated with Downtown Van (BIA) and other key stakeholders, to both broaden and deepen opportunities to engage, including the Granville Street Block Party.

- Overall, the feedback has been positive with strong support for the proposed vision statement and objectives for Granville Street and the Granville Entertainment District (GED) as 77% of participants surveyed agreed with the vision statement.
- Specific priorities include the protection and enhancement of arts and culture spaces; more patios and places to sit, gather and celebrate; safe, reliable and accessible transit; and introducing new and exciting businesses and events throughout the day and night.
- However, concerns regarding safety and the perception of safety remain a priority in the area (87% of survey participants said they felt 'unsafe' or 'uncomfortable' on Granville Street), and there is a strong desire to create a safer and more inclusive nightlife experience.

Next Steps

Staff will continue to work with the public and stakeholders to develop and test ideas to help implement the vision, and bring forward recommendations to Council in 2024. Staff will also continue to advance development proposals in alignment with the Granville Street Planning process, through the Council adopted Granville Street Interim Rezoning Policy (IRP), including 800 Granville and those proposals that support the delivery of much needed hotel space in the downtown.

Through the next phase of work, the project team will engage a multidisciplinary design consultancy to develop an Urban Design Framework for Granville Street that provides an integrated approach to public space, building design, signage and lighting in the area. A request for proposals will be released shortly seeking consultants with expertise in entertainment districts and destination high streets.

In addition to the medium-term concepts that will be explored through the design consultancy, staff are developing an immediate work program for pilots and streetscape improvements in the area. This work will provide near-term benefits, while also serving as the first steps in phased implementation of the vision.

Staff will continue to provide Council with updates on the progress of this project as we advance this work with the public and stakeholders.

Should you have any questions please reach out to me at doug.smith@vancouver.ca.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Smith". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "S".

Doug Smith
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability
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