

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**
To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**
Date: 2/20/2024 12:28:35 PM
Subject: City confirms Granville Street Bridge does not pose safety risk to the public - media statement (February 20, 2024)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below media statement regarding concerns about safety of the Granville Street Bridge following articles released this weekend discussing a Notice of Claim filed by the City. Should you be approached by media to comment on this matter, you are encouraged to refer them to media@vancouver.ca for responses.

Below is some additional background information that may be helpful to you. This information is not confidential:

- On February 14, 2024, the City of Vancouver filed a Notice of Civil Claim to address issues that were identified regarding work that took place on the Granville Street Bridge from 2018 to 2021.
 - This work, which was part of the 2019-2022 Capital Plan, included replacement bearings and expansion joints, and repair concrete and steel focused on the steel span, south approach ramps and north approach ramps.
- The City's Notice of Civil Claim that was filed noted the concept of the bridge posing a "real and substantial danger" to the public. This language is a legal requirement for the claim.
 - There are no immediate safety concerns for the Granville Street Bridge and to members of the public who use the bridge.
 - This legal requirement means the defective work does not pose an immediate or short-term risk to the structure or the public but could pose a future risk if left unchecked or unmitigated.
- Media outlets, including the Vancouver Sun, picked up the Notice of Civil Claim and published articles that quoted language from the claim that has drawn concerns about the safety of the Granville Street Bridge.
- This Notice of Civil Claim is not connected to current work on the Granville Bridge including the Granville Connector (transportation upgrades) and Granville Upgrades (structural upgrades).
- The Granville Bridge was built in 1954. The City conducts regular inspections, maintenance and repair works to ensure public safety.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver



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
Media statement
February 20, 2023

City confirms Granville Street Bridge does not pose safety risk to the public

The City of Vancouver is sharing the below statement in response to recent media reports regarding a Notice of Civil Claim related to the Granville Street Bridge:

“The City would like to assure the public that the Granville Street Bridge does not pose any structural safety risks to the public. Public safety remains City's highest priority.

The City's Notice of Civil Claim that recently was filed noted the concept of the bridge posing a “real and substantial danger” to the public, which the City acknowledges without context has raised concerns. This language is a legal requirement for the claim. The defective work outlined in the civil claim does not pose an immediate risk to the public.

The work in question is unrelated to the ongoing Granville Bridge projects including Granville Connector transportation upgrades or Granville Upgrades structural repairs and recoating project. For updates as it relates to the Granville Connector transportation upgrades, visit: vancouver.ca/GranvilleConnector

The Granville Bridge was built in 1954. The City conducts regular inspections, maintenance and repair works to ensure public safety.”

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Media contact:

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