

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**

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

Date: 2024-06-06 4:57:24 PM

Subject: Memo - Updates on the Water St Pedestrian Zone Pilot

Attachments: Memo - Updates on the Water St Pedestrian Zone Pilot.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

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

- This memo provides an update on the Water St Pedestrian Zone Pilot, and the transition plan between Gastown repairs and the launch of the pilot.
- Construction in Maple Tree Square is progressing well; staff expect construction fencing to come down mid-month after final deficiencies are addressed and site clean-up.
- Early on-site preparations for the Pedestrian Zone Pilot will begin the week of June 17 followed by the installation of the traffic management plan, furniture and business patios the week of June 24.
- The Pilot will include expanded patios, public seating, placemaking elements and flexible permitting for community activations, as well as enhanced street cleaning and micro-cleaning services and peer initiatives to support community safety.

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

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 x m k y m (Musqueam), S w w u 7 mesh (Squamish), and s lilw ta (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

June 5, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Updates on the Water St Pedestrian Zone Pilot

RTS #: 15971

This memo provides an update on the Summer 2024 Water St Pedestrian Zone Pilot, including status of Gastown repairs and a detailed timeline for the upcoming month of June as a transitional period towards the Summer Pilot.

Maple Tree Square Repairs Wrapping Up

Construction in Maple Tree Square has progressed well and, weather dependent, we expect all brick paver repair and deficiency work to be completed by mid-June. The construction fencing will remain in place for about one week after completion of the repair work to allow enough time for the new road surface to cure/set, address any outstanding deficiencies, and site cleanup. In line with this schedule, we expect the fencing to be removed during the week of June 10-14. To maximize the quality of the repair and allow the brick roadway sufficient time to cure and set, the roadway will remain closed to vehicular traffic for the short period of time between the completion of construction and the installation of the upcoming Water Street Pedestrian Zone Pilot. The area will be cleaned and open to the public.

Preparing for the Water Street Pedestrian Zone Pilot

City crews will begin on-site preparations for the pilot starting June 17, including surveying, installation of signage, and minor repairs. The following week of June 24, the traffic

management plan and key design components of the pilot will be installed. Please see Appendix A for a week-by-week overview of the transition plan in June.

The pilot will include expanded patios and merchandise displays, furniture (both moveable and fixed seating), planters, placemaking and wayfinding elements, as well as storytelling boards featuring art from Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. Two new Mobi stations will also be installed in the area to facilitate active transportation to and from the neighbourhood. Staff are also working with Destination Vancouver and the Gastown Business Improvement Society to support the installation of a tourism kiosk and promote the area to cruise ship visitors and tourists. The new Open Streets permitting process designed for the pedestrian zone will further enable community-led events and flexible activations for businesses, like temporary market stalls and live music for patios. See Appendix B for a concept map of the Pedestrian Zone.

Existing City street cleaning services (nightly flushing, sweeping and litter collection) will be supplemented with additional enhanced daytime litter pick up and sidewalk cleaning once construction is complete. Existing micro-cleaning will also be supplemented during the pilot with additional micro-cleaning, power washing, and feces collection starting on June 28. Staff are also developing a holistic approach to community safety including daily peer ambassador support, and additional peer initiatives to support nighttime and gender safety.

During July and August, staff will be monitoring public life on Water Street, including how many people are visiting and how people are using the space using survey and observation methods. Staff will also be monitoring changes in traffic patterns in the neighbourhood, and communicating directly with businesses and residents to respond to any issues as they may arise. This data will help inform future pedestrian zone pilot planning, the overall approach to pedestrianizing Water Street in the Gastown Public Space Plan, and improvements to permitting processes to better support business.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lon LaClaire', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services

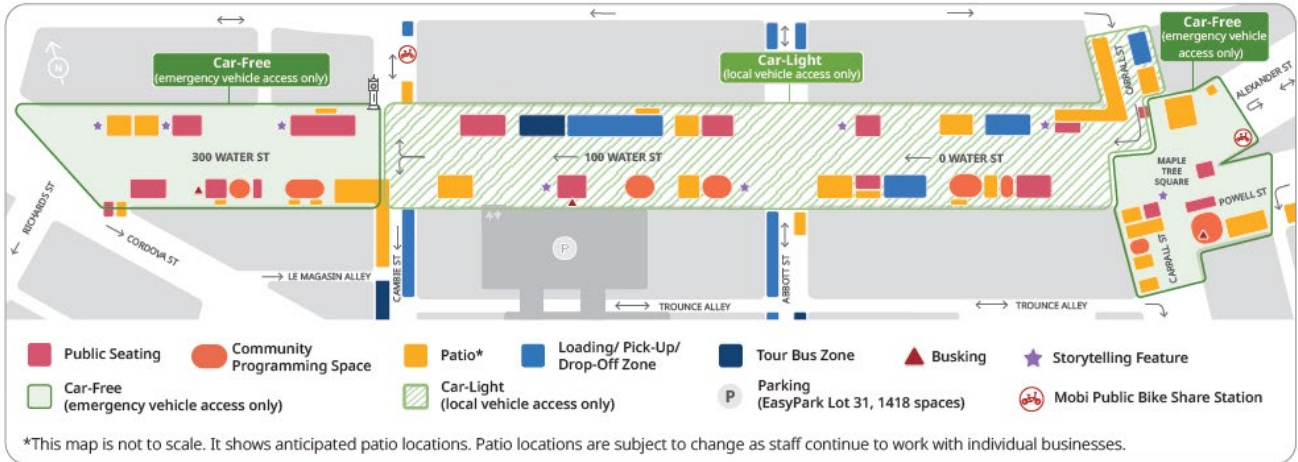
604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca

Appendix A: June Timeline

Week	Details
June 3-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brick curing and deficiency work in progress; fencing still in place with signage explaining curing process. • Community notification update to residents and businesses • Destination Vancouver kiosk is installed
June 10-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete and finalize remaining deficiency work • Fence comes down, site cleanup, power washing [Construction Complete] • Additional daytime litter pick-up and sidewalk cleaning begins
June 17-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site preparations begin for the pedestrian zone, including surveying, installation of traffic signage and minor repairs.
June 24-28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic management plan is implemented; pilot furniture is installed. • June 26: earliest installation date for expanded pilot patios and merchandise displays. • June 27-28: [Pilot soft launch] • June 28: Additional micro-cleaning and peer services begin
July 1- 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official media launch; more details to come.

Appendix B: Concept Map

Water Street Pedestrian Zone Pilot July and August 2024



Variety of public seating and planters



Storytelling features



Flexible open space with movable furniture for community programming and events



Dedicated space to support businesses' patios and merchandise displays

