

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**  
To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**  
Date: 2024-07-16 11:29:39 AM  
Subject: Update - Hastings Public Realm Cleaning Initiative (Project Hope)

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Good morning Mayor & Council

I am writing to provide you with an update on the Hastings Public Realm Cleaning Initiative ("Project Hope"), which received some [media coverage recently](#).

Project Hope was initiated in March 2023, during the Hastings Street encampment, for the purpose of improving cleanliness and supporting community using a peer-led approach. The project was made possible through Provincial funding (UBCM grant – the same funding as the DTES washrooms) and Mission Possible (MP) was the successful proponent following an RFP process. Although the scope of work is similar to our [Street Cleaning Grant Program](#), there are some differences and funding criteria required us to award as a contract instead of a grant.

**Project Hope Overview:**

- Location – East Hastings from Abbott to Dunlevy
- Provides income generation for people facing barriers to traditional employment (approx. 350 hours of paid work /week)
- Services include:
  - Micro-cleaning - 7 days/week
  - Pressure washing - 5 days/week
  - Community outreach/navigators - 5 days/week
- Costs – approx. \$80,000/month (\$1M annualized)

**Water St. Project Adjustment (July 1 – Sept 2, 2024)**

As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, Provincial funding (\$1.3M) was fully expended. However, in order to achieve higher levels of cleanliness and integrate peer outreach into the Water St. Pedestrian Pilot, and continue services in the Project Hope area, staff have allocated a portion of the Water St. Pilot funding towards an expanded Project Hope.

- Location - Project Hope boundaries and Gastown:
- Services include:
  - Micro-cleaning - 7 days/week (both areas)
  - Pressure washing - 3 days/week Hastings, 2 days/week Gastown
  - Community outreach/navigators - 5 days/week Hastings, 7-14 days/week Gastown (up to 2 shifts/day)
- Costs – approx. \$120,000/month

**Next Steps:**

Early last week, staff were able to identify sufficient operational funding (via vacancy savings) to continue MP services at the same Project Hope levels (\$80k/month) for the remainder of the year (Sept – Dec). The news of the extension had not been shared with MP or other community stakeholders (i.e. BIA's) before the media article as staff have been developing a plan to continue some level of services in Gastown/Hastings BIA's, rather than revert directly back to the original Project Hope boundaries. Both MP and Gastown BIA have now been updated and are grateful for the positive news.

At the same time, staff are also working to develop options to integrate this important work into our regular Street Cleaning Grant Program for 2025, which will be brought forward for Council's consideration as part of the annual budgeting process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto: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<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.