

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**

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

Date: 2024-07-23 10:19:16 AM

Subject: Upcoming news release - City Council approves more than \$1.8M for improvements to SRO buildings in Chinatown (July 23, 2024)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Following your approval at this week's Council meeting, I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release today announcing City Council approving more than \$1.8 million to upgrade SROs in Chinatown in support of residents who are low-income or at risk of homelessness.

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

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 x̱m̱əθḵəy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
News release
July 23, 2024

City Council approves more than \$1.8M for improvements to SRO buildings in Chinatown

Today, Vancouver City Council approved more than \$1.8 million to upgrade Single Room Occupancy (SRO) buildings in Chinatown in support of residents who are low-income or at risk of homelessness.

Through the Chinatown Housing Partnership Grant program, six grants were approved, totaling \$1.6 million, for Chinese Society-owned SROs to enhance the safety and livability of their buildings while maintaining affordability. Additionally, 10 grants totaling up to \$240,000 were approved to make important fire safety upgrades.

"The grants approved today directly support low-income residents in the Chinatown community by making necessary improvements to SRO buildings while keeping rents low," says Mayor Ken Sim. "Chinatown is held near and dear to so many across Vancouver, which is why my team continues to prioritize the safety and revitalization of this historic and beloved neighbourhood."

This funding is also aligned with the [Chinatown Cultural District Framework](#), approved in June 2024, as a comprehensive approach to supporting Chinatown's renewed vibrancy and urgent needs, including both economic and community development. It also supports the [Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan](#) which focuses on the revitalization of Chinatown providing enhanced cleaning and sanitation services and additional community supports.

The approved grants will support a wide variety of upgrades including plumbing systems, roofing, waterproofing, fire sprinkler systems, and improvements to communal bathrooms, kitchens and amenities.

The grant recommendations are outlined in the following reports to council: [\[LINK\]](#)

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