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To: "[Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)"

Date: 10/16/2024 4:01:17 PM

Subject: ENG - Memo to Mayor and Council - Oak Street Sewer Separation Project & Implemented Traffic Management Strategies Update

Attachments: ENG - PDB - Memo to Mayor and Council - Oak Street Sewer Separation Project and Implemented Traffic Management Strategies Update - Final.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jimmy Zammar. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- This memo provides an update on the Oak Street Sewer Separation Project and the effectiveness of traffic management strategies in the Marpole neighborhood.
- The project remains on schedule for completion by spring 2025, with phases of sewer work and paving detailed for each section.
- A series of traffic management measures have been implemented, resulting in improved traffic flow and reduced neighborhood congestion.
- The City will continue to share updates through social media and the website to keep residents informed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jimmy Zammar at 604.871.6880 or [jimmy.zammar@vancouver.ca](mailto:jimmy.zammar@vancouver.ca).

Best,  
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x'm k'y'm (Musqueam), S'wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s'liilw'ta (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

October 16, 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:** Jimmy Zammar  
Deputy General Manager, Engineering Services

**SUBJECT:** Oak Street Sewer Separation Project & Implemented Traffic Management Strategies Update

**RTS #:** N/A

This memo provides an update to Council regarding the progress of the Oak Street Sewer Separation Project and report back on the effectiveness of the traffic management strategies that have been implemented in the Marpole neighborhood. A [memo](#) was previously provided to Council back in May, outlining the project and traffic impacts for Phase 3.

### Construction Progress Update

The project is due to complete on schedule by Spring 2025. An update on the three phases is provided below:

- **Phase 1 (Fremlin Street):** Sewer work completed, paving completed as of October 11.
- **Phase 2 (W 70 Avenue):** Sewer work completed, paving scheduled for October 15-18.
- **Phase 3 (Oak Street):** Sewer work is currently underway, with 150 meters completed north of W 70th Avenue. The last section, between W 64th and W 67th Avenues, is scheduled to start in late October 2024. The sewer project is expected to be finished by February 2025, with final paving likely taking place in Spring 2025, depending on weather conditions.

As this work continues, the contractor is actively moving materials and restoring the corridor and parking for residents on Shaughnessy and Fremlin Streets.

## Background on Oak Street Traffic

The construction work through the Oak and W 70 Ave intersection is one of the most challenging projects in the City. The intersection experiences some of the highest traffic volumes in the City due to its proximity to the Oak Street Bridge, which accommodates approximately 120,000 vehicles per day—double the volume of the city’s busiest arterial streets. City staff and Council heard significant feedback during this recent phase and, in response to feedback from residents and commuters, staff worked closely with the contractor to implement additional traffic measures to help manage the impacts. Below is a summary of the measures and outcomes.

## Additional Traffic Management Measures and Results

- **Digital message boards:** Installed at key locations to advise drivers of the work and encourage alternate routes.
- **Local traffic only signs:** Placed at approximately 30 locations on residential streets to reduce congestion and shortcutting.
- **Lane openings:** Two lanes in each direction (westbound and eastbound) on W 70th Avenue were opened, alleviating congestion on adjacent roads.
- **Traffic advisories:** Regular updates through social media traffic advisories on X/Twitter, which are shared by various media outlets.
- **Compliance messaging & increased patrols:** Enhanced communication around compliance with signage and turn restrictions, and increased VPD patrols to enforce bus lanes and turning restrictions.
- **Bus queue jumper lane:** Installed on Oak Street from Park Drive to improve transit flow.
- **Expanded signage:** Additional signs on adjacent routes to alert drivers to road closures further from the project area.

The implemented measures have yielded the following outcomes:

- **Improved traffic flow:** Increased VPD presence has reduced illegal driving behaviors and improved overall traffic flow.
- **Reduced shortcutting:** Road closures and local traffic signs have minimized shortcutting through residential areas.
- **Fewer complaints:** Fewer inquiries and complaints relating to neighbourhood congestion since implementation of these new traffic measures.

The City will continue to keep the public informed through traffic advisories on social media and on our website: [www.vancouver.ca/oakstupgrades](http://www.vancouver.ca/oakstupgrades). If you have any further questions, please contact me anytime at [jimmy.zammar@vancouver.ca](mailto:jimmy.zammar@vancouver.ca).



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