

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>

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

Date: 12/13/2024 11:11:20 AM

Subject: ENG - Memo - West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes

Attachments: ENG - Memo - West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached Memo from Lon LaClaire regarding **West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes A** short summary of the memo is as follows:

- The purpose of this memo is to provide an overview of the West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes project, including upcoming business and community information on the proposed design.
- The W First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes include protected bike lanes and wider sidewalks along W First Avenue and Fir Street. Changes also include new protected intersections and signals in the area, and a new Squamish Nation-delivered plaza. Parking changes are expected in select locations.
- Staff will visit project area businesses in December to seek feedback on details of the project. Staff are also extending invitations to have one-on-one meetings with residential building managers, HUB and the False Creek Residents' Association.
- The broader public will receive mailed out project information in January, with the possible conclusion of the Canada Post strike, and will be invited to provide feedback via project email and 311.

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
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwəta+ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.



ENGINEERING SERVICES
Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
City Engineer/General Manager

MEMORANDUM

December 3, 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: West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes

RTS #: N/A

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide an overview of the **West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes** project, including upcoming business and community information on the proposed design.

Background

The West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes project will include new or upgraded protected bike lanes along West First Avenue (Burrard Street to Creekside Drive) & Fir Street (West First Avenue to West Second Avenue).

These changes will improve safety and comfort for everyone, particularly for people walking and cycling, while accommodating access and loading for nearby businesses and residents. This project will help connect the Arbutus and Seaside Greenways with the growing populations at Señákw. It will also help advance our commitments in the Señákw Services Agreement and the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Proposed design

The proposed design is provided in Appendix A.
The West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes include:

- New protected bike lanes along West First Avenue (Burrard Street to Pine Street) & Fir Street (West First Avenue to West Second Avenue).
- Upgraded protected bike lanes along West First Avenue (Pine Street to Creekside Drive) and Burrard Street (York Avenue to West First Avenue).
- Wider sidewalks along West First Avenue and Fir Street.
- New protected intersections at Burrard Street & West First Avenue and Fir Street & West First Avenue (Squamish Nation-delivered).
- New traffic signals at Fir Street & West First Avenue and Fir Street & West Second Avenue
- New Squamish Nation-delivered plaza at West First Avenue and Fir Street.
- Parking changes in select locations.

The planned design retains two-way motor vehicle traffic along West First Avenue and Fir Street and includes some changes to curbside use to accommodate new/upgraded protected bike lanes and wider sidewalks. Approximately 62 out of 116 on-street parking spaces in the project area will be retained. In addition, some off-street parking is available in the neighbourhood.

The estimated cost-share contribution from the City is \$3.7M. Staff are updating businesses and residents in December 2024 and January 2025, and seeking feedback on curbside regulations. Construction is anticipated in late 2026.

Public engagement

Staff will visit project area businesses in December to seek feedback on details of the project. Staff are also extending invitations to have one-on-one meetings with residential building managers, HUB and the False Creek Residents' Association. Vancouver Fire Rescue Services are also being consulted through the design process to ensure emergency response needs are met.

The broader public will receive mailed out project information in January, with the possible conclusion of the Canada Post strike, and will be invited to provide feedback via project email and 311.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any further questions about this project.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services
604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca

Appendix A: West First Avenue and Fir Street Transportation Changes

TRANSPORTATION DESIGN



- Highlights**
- 1 New protected intersection to separate people walking, cycling, and driving
 - 2 New two-way protected bike lane meeting All Ages and Abilities (AAA) guidelines
 - 3 New wider sidewalks to increase comfort and safety for people walking
 - 4 New traffic signals to improve safety
 - 5 New Squamish Nation-led plaza with public space elements
 - 6 New one-way protected bike lanes meeting AAA guidelines

Protected Intersection
 A protected intersection design separates people walking and cycling from motor vehicles, providing a higher degree of comfort and safety for people of All Ages and Abilities (AAA).