

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

To: "Bligh, Rebecca" <Rebecca.Bligh@vancouver.ca>

Date: 1/17/2025 3:01:00 PM

Subject: RE: Dunsmuir House Demolition

Hi Rebecca,

Thanks again for raising the questions regarding impact of the Dunsmuir House demolition on adjacent businesses.

On Tuesday, the Chief Building Official issued an Unsafe to Occupy Order to businesses at 570 Dunsmuir Street, 562 Dunsmuir Street, 620 Seymour Street and 626 Seymour Street, informing them that they are within the collapse zone and would need to vacate for the duration of the demolition.

In total, five businesses are impacted by this Order, including:

- A school and a pop-up donut shop, which do not operate on the weekends
- A hair salon, which appears to have limited hours of operation and does not open on Sundays
- A souvenir shop and poke restaurant

Separately, yesterday, WorkSafeBC requested the closure of additional businesses located immediately across the demolition site at 501 Dunsmuir Street, as a condition of approving the worker safety plan. This request was not anticipated by the planning team. In compliance, the Chief Building Official issued an order under his authority and businesses were notified as quickly as possible that afternoon.

For your awareness, this order limited the closure to a short three-hour window—from 7 AM to approximately 10 AM on Saturday—until the Dunsmuir façade is reduced by one storey and the area is no longer within a potential collapse zone. Once this portion of work is completed, businesses will be able to resume normal operations, and sidewalk access will be fully restored to help minimize disruptions.

In total, six businesses are affected by yesterday's order, including:

- Four restaurants that typically open after 11 AM for lunch
- A hair salon that rescheduled one appointment
- A school on the second floor that does not operate on weekends

In addition to delivering formal notices, City staff reached out directly to each business owner, and we have not received any complaints thus far. Given the expediency of the demolition overall and the timing of WorkSafeBC's directive, we acted as quickly as possible to notify impacted businesses. However, we recognize that the short notice may have caused some inconvenience or confusion for those immediately affected.

The CBO will be directly connecting with businesses this weekend to thank them for their patience and cooperation as this necessary work proceeds.

4/16/2025

If you have any questions about the foregoing or would like additional details, please let me know.

Best,
Paul

From: Bligh, Rebecca <Rebecca.Bligh@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2025 2:59 PM
To: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Subject: Dunsmuir House Demolition

Hi Paul,

As we prepare for the demolition of Dunsmuir House this weekend, I have heard from adjacent businesses that have been served legal notice to close for the weekend. Can you please share to what extent businesses in the area are affected? Do you know if the legal notice posted worked through the COV channels of the business and economic development office?

While no one is debating public safety is of paramount concern it is surprising the businesses have only received two days' notice to plan for the closure, so I am hoping to gain a greater understanding of the city's processes as it relates to communicating the situation, safety precautions and impacts to the local business community.

Rebecca

Councillor Rebecca Bligh

CITY OF VANCOUVER

453 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

E: CLRbligh@vancouver.ca P: 604-873-7249

Twitter @rebeccaleeblich

Sarah Basi (she/her) | Assistant to Councillors

604-871-6713 | sarah.basi@vancouver.ca

4/16/2025

