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

Date: 1/30/2025 4:39:49 PM

Subject: Upcoming News Release: Celebrate the Year of the Snake with the 51st Annual Spring Festival Parade in historic Chinatown - Road Closures for Chinatown and Downtown on Sunday, February 2 (January 30, 2025)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that staff will be issuing the below news release today describing the traffic impacts and road closures for the Annual Spring Festival Parade in Chinatown on Sunday, February 2. The release also acknowledges that there is snow and cold weather in the forecast and reminds attendees to dress for the weather, drive with caution and give themselves extra time to get where they need to go.

The City recognizes the significance of this important cultural event and along with the organizers, are watching the forecast closely to understand if snow will impact the event in any way. Behind the scenes, staff are also working closely with the event organizer and sharing snow response plans for Sunday, the day of the parade. These include snow clearing on the route ahead of the parade and hand salting curb ramps and bus stops in the area. The organizer is also gathering volunteers to clear snow off of sidewalks and the Chinatown BIA is reminding businesses in the area of their sidewalk clearing responsibilities.

While it is not currently contemplated, should the organizers choose to cancel the event, the City will support them by sharing and amplifying that update through our social media channels.

In addition, tomorrow we will be issuing an information bulletin on how the City will support residents more broadly during snow and how we will respond operationally. We will include in that bulletin a reminder for parade attendees and any new updates.

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

Best,

Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)

City Manager

City of Vancouver

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

**City of Vancouver**  
**News release**  
**January 30, 2025**

**Celebrate the Year of the Snake with the  
51<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Festival Parade in historic Chinatown**  
*Road Closures for Chinatown and Downtown on Sunday, February 2*

Many Asian communities throughout Vancouver will celebrate the start of the Lunar New Year and usher in the Year of the Snake with lively festivities and cultural traditions. For those eager to join in the celebration, the 51st Annual Chinatown Spring Festival Parade will take place on February 2 in the city's historic Chinatown district.

"Lunar New Year is not just about keeping traditions alive—it's about bringing the community together to celebrate our diversity," said Mayor Ken Sim. "I invite everyone to join in, support local businesses and celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Snake in Vancouver's incredible Chinatown neighbourhood."

The Spring Festival Parade is just one of the many annual events that contribute to Chinatown's vibrancy. In June 2024, Vancouver City Council approved the [Chinatown Cultural District Framework](#) to guide the City's ongoing efforts to revitalize economic and community development in Chinatown.

**Attending the parade**

To help ensure the parade operates as smoothly as possible, attendees are encouraged to:

- Walk, bike, roll, or take transit whenever possible.
- Stay ahead of road closures.
- Put waste in its place: dispose of waste in the nearest garbage, recycling or organics bin. Additional waste bins will be added for the events.
- Be considerate of the neighbourhood and keep noise to a minimum when leaving.

With cold temperatures and potential snow expected this weekend, be sure to dress warmly, drive for the conditions, and allow extra time to reach your destination.

## Parade route

The parade begins at 11 am on February 2, 2025 and will last approximately three hours. The 1.3 km route starts at the Millennium Gate on Pender Street (between Shanghai Alley and Taylor Street), proceeds east along Pender, turns south onto Gore Street, turns west onto Keefer Street, and then ends on Keefer at Carrall Street.

View a map of the [parade route PDF file \(756 KB\)](#)

## Traffic impacts

To accommodate the parade, road closures will be in effect on Sunday, February 2, 2025 between 8 am to 5 pm on sections of the following streets:

- Main Street
- Pender Street (East and West)
- Beatty Street
- Abbott Street
- Taylor Street
- Shanghai Alley
- Columbia Street
- Quebec Street
- Carrall Street
- Keefer Street
- Keefer Place
- East Georgia Street
- Gore Avenue

Alleys in the parade area will also be closed, including access to private parkades. Residents of Taylor Street and Shanghai Alley will have vehicular access to Keefer Place, westbound only.

## Tips and resources

If you are travelling in and around the event areas:

- Plan ahead and expect delays
- Follow all detours and abide by no parking signs.
- Learn more about [road closures](#) across the city.
- Follow #VanTraffic or use our [traffic cameras](#) to check traffic conditions along your commute.

- Visit [TransLink alerts](#) for changes or disruptions to your bus service.

For more information and updates on the Chinatown Spring Festival Parade, [visit the event organizer's website](#).

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**Media contact:**

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