

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

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council"

Date: 5/22/2025 4:07:34 PM

Subject: Upcoming News Release: New Seawall Path by Science World now open (May 23, 2025)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release announcing the opening of the new Seawall Path between Science World and Creekside Community Centre, anticipated to open tomorrow afternoon.

The new path is composed of both an asphalt and compacted gravel section. The compacted gravel section is similar to the seawall path at Vanier Park. As the equipment needed to lay asphalt exceeds safe weight restrictions for that section of the deck structure, compacted gravel was the best choice to safely and effectively construct that portion of the path, and bring people closer to the water.

In addition to the news release, we have the following comms planned to support the opening:

1. Pitching 1:1 interviews with the General Manager, Engineering to several media outlets
2. Clear signage in the area to identify what areas are open/closed
3. Social strategy, including video across social, about why the seawall was closed and details about this new path (launching Friday)

Please keep this news release embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account. 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

paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



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 lilw ta (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

New Seawall Path by Science World now open

For everyone who loves walking or biking around False Creek, get ready to use the new seawall path between Creekside and Science World, which is now open.

"The Seawall is beloved by Vancouverites, and I am thrilled to see this new path open just in time for summer," said Mayor Ken Sim. "A big thank you to the hardworking crews who got it done safely and quickly, and to everyone who patiently used the detours over the past few months."

The new seawall connection features two wide, comfortable, and separated side-by-side paths for pedestrians and cyclists. The western half of the new path is asphalt, and the eastern portion over the deck is a compacted gravel surface, similar to the Seawall near Vanier Park.

"Our goal was to create a safe path that brings Seawall and Seaside Greenway users closer to the water," said Lon LaClaire, General Manager of Engineering Services. "Given that the equipment required to lay asphalt exceeded the safe weight limits for the deck, compacted gravel was chosen as the best material for a portion of the path."

The new path is designed for long-term use and will remain in place for the years ahead while the City continues long-term planning for the safe deconstruction of the Expo Deck. The existing closed area of the deck will not reopen. For their safety, the public is kindly asked to obey signage in the area and stay out of the closed areas.

Expo Deck closure

The Expo deck structures were built in 1984 for the 1986 World Expo, and for temporary purposes. The City had been planning to close the deck and deconstruct it starting in 2028 as part of a new design for a permanent waterfront park. However, due to the aging condition of the structure and in response to recent assessments, portions of the structure are no longer be safe for public access. In February 2025, the City [closed the Expo Deck](#) south of Science World, including the portion of Seawall path on the deck structure.

NEW SEAWALL PATH

