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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council"](#)
Date: 6/19/2025 7:14:30 AM
Subject: Emerging issues note: Emergency road closure on Robson Street (Engineering) (June 19, 2025)

Good morning Mayor & Council,

Further to my message on Monday evening advising of the closure of Robson/Thurlow Streets due to a small sinkhole, staff have prepared the following key messages that may be helpful to you in conversations with the public and constituents.

Key facts:

- On Monday night, the intersection of Robson Street and Thurlow Street was partially closed in response to a small sinkhole in the middle of the intersection.
 - The sinkhole created a hole in the asphalt that was approximately 10 inches in diameter.
 - The closure was implemented for public safety while investigation and emergency repairs were underway.
- The Robson BIA and Downtown BIA were notified of the closure and advised that access for pedestrians and businesses would be retained.
- Repairs are currently underway and are expected to be completed by the end of the week.
- Currently, Robson remains temporarily closed to traffic at Jervis Street, with one lane is retained on Thurlow Street. Transit is being detoured.
- Crews have enabled limited local access to closed sections of the street, including creating a roundabout for guests and visitors to the Blue Horizon Hotel and supporting Robson Street BIA to complete their annual planter box installation, which had been planned for a number of months.

Key messages:

- On Monday night, the City partially closed the intersection of Thurlow St. and Robson St. in response to a small sinkhole in the middle of the intersection.
- Further investigation into the cause of the sinkhole is currently underway, but we believe it was an isolated area of loose soil conditions along an old utility trench.
- Emergency repairs are currently underway, and we anticipate repair work will be complete by end of the week.
- There are lane closures the intersection at Robson St and Thurlow (one southbound lane remains open) while work is underway.
- Pedestrian access has been retained and businesses are open.
- We thank everyone for their patience while we complete emergency repairs.

Q&A

Is this related to the Bute-Robson Plaza construction?

No. This is unrelated and located one block away from the plaza construction area.

When will traffic fully return to the area?

Work is expected to be complete by the end of the week. Once the work is complete, traffic will be restored. Pedestrian access and access to businesses has been retained through the work.

Was this sinkhole related to a sewer main break/leak similar to Terminal Avenue?

No. Crews confirmed this is not related to a water or sewer main leak. Investigation is still underway but we believe that loose soil conditions along an old utility trench created a sinkhole in an isolated area.

Should you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Lon LaClaire. We also welcome you to direct any media inquiries to media@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 0k y m (Musqueam), S wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s lilw ta (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.