

From: "Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

Date: 7/28/2025 3:17:38 PM

Subject: ENG - Memo - School Street Program - Fall Update

Attachments: ENG - Memo - School Street Program - Fall Update.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached Memo from Lon LaClaire regarding **School Street Program - Fall Update**. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Gordon Elementary will implement School Streets on Tuesdays, starting September 16, 2025, through June 23, 2026.
- The City is participating in the National Active School Streets Initiative (NASSI) over the next three years (2025-2027) to pilot year-round School Streets models at two local elementary schools beginning in September 2025.
- Lord Selkirk Elementary has been confirmed as the first school to participate in the NASSI year-round paid staff model pilot from September 2025 to June 2026.
- Schools will once again be invited to participate in the annual Spring School Streets Program that takes place every May and June for a four- to six-week period.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)

Thanks,

Karen

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**Karen Levitt**, Acting City Manager  
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm/Musqueam, Skwx̱w̱u817 \_wú7mesh/Squamish and səlilwətał/Tsleil-Waututh nations

## MEMORANDUM

July 28, 2025

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Karen Levitt, Acting City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Chief of External Relations  
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: School Streets Program – Fall Update

RTS #: N/A

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this memo is to update Council on the School Streets Program which is a part of the City's School Active Travel Program.

### **Background**

Established in 2012, our [School Active Travel Program](#) works with school communities and key partners, including the Vancouver School Board (VSB), to improve safety and increase the number of children walking, biking, and rolling to school.

### **School Streets Program**

The [School Streets Program](#) was first piloted in Vancouver at three elementary schools in 2021, and to date, 13 schools have participated. This popular program encourages more families to walk, bike, and roll to and from school, which helps improve safety during arrival and dismissal time. The program consists of setting up a car-free block beside a school open to walking, biking, and rolling during pick-up/drop-off times (30 to 75 minutes). Parent and community volunteers lead the day-to-day implementation of the School Streets. At select equity-seeking schools, paid leaders have been hired to lead the implementation.

All other blocks around each school (apart from the School Street) remain open to vehicle traffic. Additional accessible parking spaces are added to accommodate parents and students with accessibility needs who arrive by vehicle, if needed. To minimize the impact on residents, we prioritize streets without driveways and where residents can continue to access their homes through parallel alleyways.

## **2025- 2026 School Streets Program Update**

### **1) Two schools will launch year-round School Streets this September.**

#### *Year-Round School Streets – One Day A Week*

After successfully participating in the spring program for two years, Gordon Elementary will implement School Streets on Tuesdays, starting September 16, 2025, through June 23, 2026. Additionally, the school will participate in the annual Spring School Streets Program from May 19 to June 12, 2026.

#### *National Active School Streets Initiative (NASSI) – Five Days a Week*

The City is participating as a “Level-Up” community in the National Active School Streets Initiative (NASSI), led by Green Communities Canada and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. This Canada-wide project will implement 30+ School Streets initiatives across six provinces. The project will be evaluated by a research team led by Dr. Mariana Brussoni at the University of British Columbia.

Lord Selkirk Elementary has been confirmed as the first school to participate in the NASSI year-round paid staff model pilot from September 2025 to June 2026. The pilot project will be delivered by paid staff under the management of the [Society for Children and Youth of BC](#).

### **2) 2026 Spring School Streets**

Schools will once again be invited to participate in the annual Spring School Streets Program that takes place every May and June for a four- to six-week period. Previous participating schools will be given priority for the program, which will launch an expression of interest process this fall.

Additional information about the NASSI project and the School Streets Program can be found on [Green Communities Canada](#) and [Vancouver's School Streets page](#).

Please contact me directly if you have any questions with respect to this information.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
General Manager, Engineering Services

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