

From: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
To: "[Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)"
Date: 8/26/2025 7:27:32 AM
Subject: Update: 2520 East Pender St.

Hello Mayor and Council,

We have had a question about the status of 2520 East Pender St., and neighbour complaints about hoarding and fire risk. We are sharing the information below ahead of the weekly Q&As as we anticipate some media attention in the coming days and you may be approached by residents for information. Please see some information and key messages below you may wish to use publicly on this matter.

PUIs assessed the building on Monday and the Chief Building Official and issued an Untidy Premise Order yesterday afternoon.

Key Messages (for public use)

- The safety and security of vacated buildings is the legal responsibility of the property owner. Owners are required to keep their properties secure and in compliance with City bylaws.
- A Property Use Inspector assessed the property this morning and we will be following up with additional measures to ensure the owner keeps the property tidy and secure.
- Under the Vancouver Charter, the City has authority to step in if a building is considered a dangerous or unsanitary condition, or if it poses a hazard to the public.
- When a building is left unsecured, City staff may inspect the property and, if necessary, the Chief Building Official may issue orders requiring the owner to take immediate steps to secure it. If the owner does not act, the City has the authority to step in, carry out the work needed to secure the building, and then charge the costs back to the owner.
- This process helps ensure that vacated buildings do not pose a risk to the community while also holding owners accountable for meeting their obligations.
- Earlier this year, the City of Vancouver created a task force to address the growing number of vacated and underused buildings. The task force will catalogue vacated buildings city-wide and report back with recommendations later this fall. This will include exploring opportunities to keep buildings occupied until redevelopment is ready to proceed, to avoid long stretches of emptiness and ensuring demo-by-neglect is not an option.
- For questions about the previous fire, including hoarding concerns, please contact VFRS. Concerns regarding squatters should be reported to the VPD.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any further questions, please feel free to email GM of Development, Buildings, and Licensing Corrie Okell. As well, media inquiries can be directed to media@vancouver.ca

Thank you,
Sandra

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*The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x̱m̱ḵ'y̱m̱ (Musqueam), S w̱x̱u817
_wú7mesh (Squamish), and Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.*