

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

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

Date: 9/3/2025 10:21:55 AM

Subject: ENG - Memo - Granville Bus Priority Project Update

Attachments: ENG - Memo - Granville Bus Priority Project Update.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire regarding the bus-priority improvements on Granville St. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Since engagement started in April 2025, City and TransLink staff have heard general support for the overall transit improvements, but mixed feedback about the hours of bus lanes and on-street parking restrictions.
- Staff met with the Marpole Business Association and businesses to mitigate some parking concerns and reduced the bus lane hours to be weekday peaks through all of Marpole Village.
- Further analysis shows there are significant transit benefits in both directions during peak hours, and available parking on side-streets or private lots.
- Bus stop changes were implemented in June 2025, upcoming bus lanes are planned to be installed in Fall 2025, and bus bulbs in South Granville are planned to be constructed from late 2025 to spring 2026.

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

Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Acting City Manager

karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the traditional territories of the x m k y m/Musqueam, S wxwú7mesh/Squamish and s ilw ta /Tsleil-Waututh nations

MEMORANDUM

September 2, 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: Granville Bus Priority Project Update

RTS #: N/A

This memo provides an update on the bus-priority improvements on Granville St, including an engagement summary and outstanding concerns expressed by businesses in Marpole. Previous updates were provided in April 2025 in Memos to Mayor and Council [Upcoming Bus-Priority Improvements on Granville from 5th to SW Marine Dr](#) and [Bus-Priority Improvements on Granville St – Marpole Village](#).

The project advances [Council direction from October 2023](#) to prioritize transit by reallocating space from parking and general traffic, and addressing the locations of greatest delays. The proposed plan on Granville St is expected to meet Council's goal to improve travel times and service reliability for transit users by at least 10% by 2026.

Engagement Summary

In April 2025, over 15,500 residents, businesses and key stakeholders were notified of the Granville Bus Priority project through mailed letters, postcards, posters at bus stops, and social media. Feedback was received through over 250 emails, over 420 survey responses, in-person door knocking with Marpole businesses, and meetings with the South Granville Business Improvement Association (SGBIA), Marpole Business Association (MBA), Movement YVR, and several Council Advisory Committees.

Staff heard general support for the overall transit improvements, but mixed feedback about the hours of bus lanes and on-street parking restrictions. Some businesses in Marpole Village were concerned about potential economic impacts, requesting shorter hours of bus lanes. There were also some requests for longer bus lanes hours in Marpole and to add bus lanes in South

Granville. There were also many neutral and supportive responses of the bus lane hours and stop spacing changes. Some people also expressed concerns about increased vehicle travel times, increased congestion, and a need for more enforcement of the bus lanes.

Mitigations in Marpole Village

Staff met with the Marpole Business Association and several businesses to mitigate concerns expressed about the reduction of on-street parking on Granville St. Based on those conversations and further analysis, the planned implementation has been modified as follows:

- **Northbound from SW Marine to 70th Ave** – All-day bus lanes were initially proposed due to higher traffic volumes and more frequent buses. The hours have been revised to 7-10 am and 3-7 pm on weekdays, consistent throughout Marpole Village.
- **Northbound from 63rd Ave to 62nd Ave** – The all-day bus lanes have been adjusted to start at 62nd Ave instead of 63rd Ave, retaining more on-street parking spaces during weekends and midday on weekdays.
- **Parking on local streets** – Parking regulations will be extended from 1 to 2 hours on some local streets nearby, and 2-hour zones will be added to improve availability of on-street parking for at all times of day.

More information about the mitigations in Marpole and along the Granville corridor can be found in **Appendix A**.

Further Analysis of Bus Lane Hours in Marpole

The Marpole Business Association has expressed several outstanding concerns with the bus lane hours through Marpole that can not be addressed while meeting Council's stated objectives and TransLink's required return on investment. Further analysis of the transit benefits and parking impacts during these time periods are as follows:

- **Extending the southbound bus lanes from 6-7pm**

The hour from 6-7pm in the southbound direction sees the highest total passenger delay and the highest bus volumes (5 in-service buses and 26 not-in-service buses). Despite lower traffic volumes and shorter queues from 6-7pm versus 5-6pm, bus travel times are less reliable. The higher variability occurs because the parking occupancy is quite low, but there are often a few vehicles parked shortly after 6pm. Extending the southbound bus lane to 7pm does not displace many parked vehicles, but would significantly improve reliability and keep buses on schedule more often.

- **New northbound PM peak bus lanes from 3-7pm**

On Granville St, there are more vehicles travelling northbound than southbound in the afternoon peak between the Arthur Laing Bridge and 70th Ave, and volumes are similar in both directions north of 70th ¹.

The northbound PM bus lanes help free buses from high variability of traffic congestion. During 3-7pm there are 18 in-service buses with about 340 transit riders, and 18 not-in-

¹ On Granville St between Arthur Laing and 70th, there are about 1375 northbound vehicles as compared to 1150 southbound vehicles in the PM peak hour. North of 70th, there are about 1115 northbound vehicles and 1180 southbound vehicles in the PM peak hour. Volumes are based on various traffic counts collected in 2018, 2019, 2023, and 2025.

service buses traveling from the depot to start their route in the afternoon peak². Average bus travel times are estimated to be 15-20% faster with the bus lanes, while slower bus trips could save twice that. The northbound PM peak bus lanes contribute greatly to faster and more reliable travel times.

Although 43 parking spaces with a moderate utilization would no longer be available on Granville St in the weekday afternoon from 3-7pm, there is access to over 440 off-street spaces in surface lots, parkades, and laneways, and over 950 on-street spaces on local streets within a block of Granville St (200m).

Across the Granville corridor the travel time savings are estimated to be 10-11% (about 3 min per direction), of which the bus lanes in Marpole contribute about 1.5-2.7% travel time savings, while the transit priority measures on other sections of Granville St contribute about 8%. The proposed bus lanes in Marpole are important to meeting Council's goal of 10% travel time savings.

Implementation

The Granville Bus Priority project will deliver a 37%³ increase to the total bus lane kilometre-hours across the city, and a summary of the proposed measures are shown in **Appendix B**.

The bus-priority improvements along Granville St are being implemented in three key phases:

- **June 2025** – Bus stop changes were implemented and TransLink removed up 3-4 minutes per round trip from the #10 bus schedule. Over 96% of riders experienced travel time savings while accessing the same bus stops. Staff are continuing to monitor feedback and the updated travel times.
- **Fall 2025** – Installation of updated parking regulations and bus lane signage on Granville St between 16th Ave and SW Marine Dr.
- **Late 2025 to spring 2026** – Construction of bus bulbs in South Granville between 11th Ave and 16th Ave.

Further information is available on the City's webpage (vancouver.ca/granville-transit), and project staff can be contacted via email (granvillebuspriority@vancouver.ca)

If you have any further questions, please contact me directly.



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

604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca

² Based on TransLink Fall 2023 ridership data, and TransLink 2025 bus schedules

³ Bus lanes are tracked by the distance and hours of day that they are in effect. Currently there are 559 bus lane kilometre-hours, and 209 bus lane kilometre-hours are planned to be installed on Granville St.

Appendix A

Summary of Mitigations for the Granville Bus-Priority Project

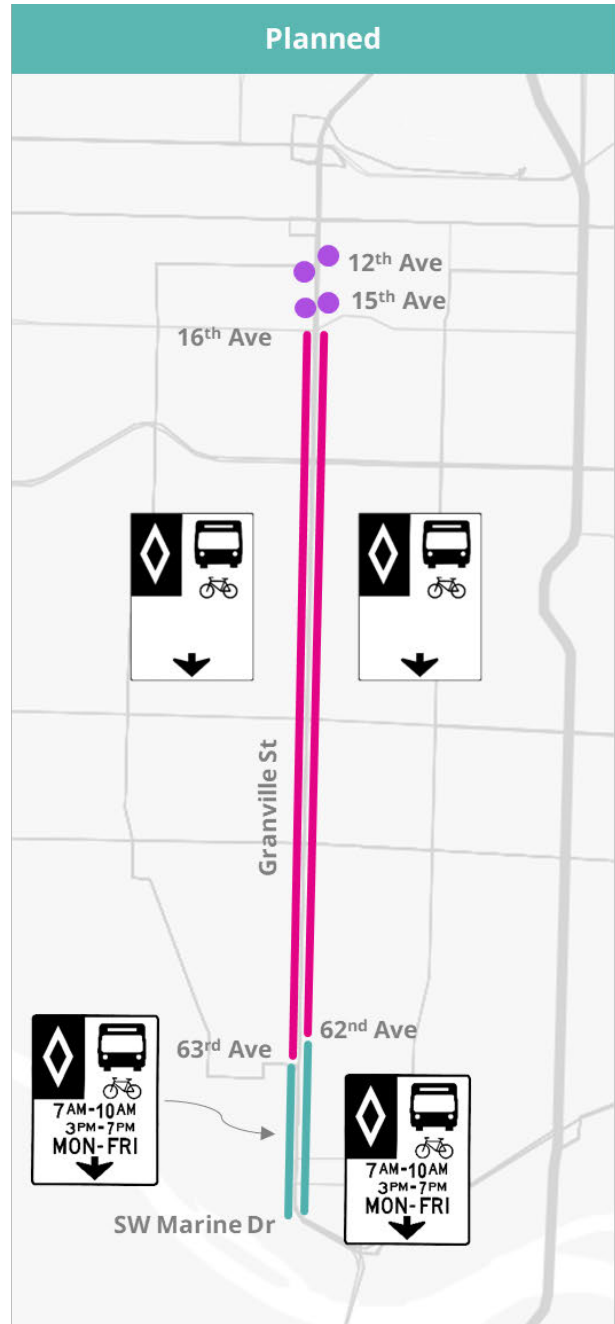
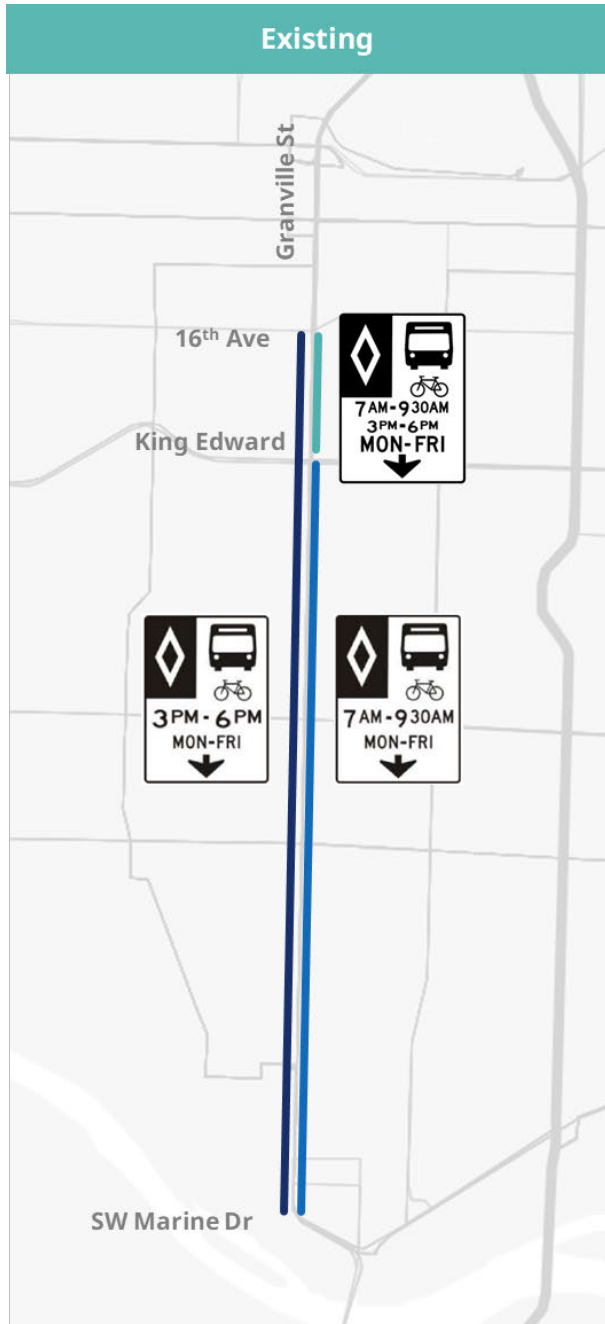
In response to feedback received from residents, businesses and key stakeholders, the proposed bus-priority improvements were adjusted to mitigate concerns.

- **Bus Stop Changes** – TransLink’s engagement summary on bus stop changes can be found at translink.ca/granvillestops. The proposal was adjusted at two stops:
 - The northbound bus stop at 71st Ave will remain in service
 - The southbound bus stop at 65th will remain in the interim, until a stop at 68th Ave can be opened once development construction completes in late 2025
- **South Granville bus bulbs** – The South Granville BIA and businesses expressed strong support for the bus bulbs and provided feedback to better integrate public realm and locations where on-street parking and loading are preferred. The designs were adjusted to focus the sidewalk widening beyond bus bulb on the east side between 15th Ave and 14th Ave, and to provide space for potential sidewalk and curbside patios.
- **On-street parking from 41st to 43rd Ave** – The Granville Chapel expressed concerns about the loss of parking on Granville St on Sundays. Parking utilization data collected on Granville St and nearby side streets showed capacity for more vehicle parking on local streets, particularly on blocks with resident-only regulations. The conversion of resident parking on Churchill St from 41st to 43rd Ave to either resident permit parking or unregulated parking has been initiated as part of the ongoing citywide program.
- **Bus lane visibility and enforcement** – Many frustrations were heard about unauthorized vehicles using bus lanes and requests for more enforcement. Staff are working with the Vancouver Police Department and Metro Vancouver Transit Police to determine a plan for increased enforcement and education about bus lanes.

Staff are also including design treatments to improve visibility of bus lanes, including larger signs directly above the lane (as opposed to on the curb edge), thicker pavement marking lines, more painted diamonds and “BUS LANE” text, to be installed when pavement rehabilitation occurs.

- **Bus lane hours in Marpole:**
 - **Northbound from SW Marine to 70th Ave** - All-day bus lanes were proposed on this section due to higher traffic volumes and more frequent buses. We heard from some businesses with fewer off-street parking options that their customers rely on on-street spaces on Granville St, during weekends and midday on weekdays. The bus lanes have been revised as 7-10 am and 3-7 pm on weekdays, retaining 6 on-street parking spaces during weekends and midday on weekdays.
 - **Northbound from 63rd Ave to 62nd Ave** – The all-day bus lanes are adjusted to start at 62nd Ave instead of 63rd Ave, retaining 12 on-street parking spaces during weekends and midday on weekdays.
- **Parking on local streets in Marpole** – To improve availability of on-street parking nearby at all times of day, parking regulations will be extended from 1 to 2 hours on 63rd Ave, 68th Ave and 64th Ave. Additional 2-hour zones will be added on 64th Ave between the laneway and French St. Signage will also be added to help drivers find spaces.

Appendix B – Bus Lane Changes and Bus Bulbs on Granville St



Legend

- Weekday AM peak bus lane (7 – 9:30 am, Mon-Fri)
- Weekday PM peak bus lane (3 – 6 pm, Mon-Fri)
- Weekday AM & PM peak bus lane (7 – 9:30 am & 3 – 6 pm, Mon-Fri) in existing condition (7 – 10 am & 3 – 7 pm, Mon-Fri) in planned condition
- All day bus lanes (24 / 7, 7 days a week)
- Permanent bus bulbs & sidewalk widening

Extending bus lanes to longer hours on Granville St:

- 16th to 63rd / 62nd Ave - All day
- 63rd / 62nd Ave to SW Marine Dr - Weekday peak periods