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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 12/19/2025 9:20:29 AM
Subject: Memo: Update on South Vancouver Motions - RTS 15864 & 18208
Attachments: ACCS-ENG - GMs - Memo (Council) - Update on South Vancouver Motions - RTS 15864 18208 (2025-12-19).pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached please find a memo from Celine Mauboules (Acting General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services) and Lon LaClaire (General Manager, Engineering Services) regarding a report back on two Council motions: a motion from June 28, 2023 titled, "[Addressing Ongoing Inequities by Improving Social Infrastructure and Access to Services Across South Vancouver and Marpole Neighbourhoods](#)" and a motion from September 17, 2025 titled, "[Creating Connections: Advancing a Transformative Active Transportation Pathway in South Vancouver](#)". The reporting for the two motions are addressed in one memo due to their shared geography and priorities.

As per the two motions, information in the memo includes:

- A summary of departmental initiatives advanced in South Vancouver and Marpole between 2023 to 2025 that relate to the historic under-resourcing considerations outlined in the June 2023 motion;
- Priority areas identified by South Vancouver and Marpole community partners for the 2027-2030 Capital Plan; and
- An update on follow-up engagements regarding the Kent Avenue greenway while rail corridor discussions are ongoing.

Should Council have any further questions please contact Celine at celine.mauboules@vancouver.ca or Lon at lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca and they will ensure questions are addressed through the weekly Q&A.

Thank you,
Sandra

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the xʷməθkʷyəm (Musqueam), Skwx̣wú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

December 19, 2025

TO: Mayor & Council

CC: Donny Van Dyck, City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief of External Relations, External Relations
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Policy, Mayor's Office

FROM: Celine Mauboules, Acting General Manager, Arts, Culture & Community Services
Lon LaClaire, General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Report Back on South Vancouver-related Motions

RTS #: 15864 and 18208

PURPOSE

This memo reports back on the 2023 Council motion: "[Addressing Ongoing Inequities by Improving Social Infrastructure and Access to Services Across South Vancouver and Marpole Neighbourhoods](#)" and provides an update on next steps. This memo also provides a high-level update on a September 2025 Council motion "[Creating Connections: Advancing a Transformative Active Transportation Pathway in South Vancouver](#)," due to the shared geography and priorities of the two motions.

BACKGROUND

South Vancouver is made up of distinct neighbourhoods, including Killarney, Victoria Fraserview, and Sunset, bordered by Marpole to the southwest. According to a 2021 study¹ titled the [South Vancouver & Marpole Neighbourhood Equity Report](#), South Vancouver and Marpole experience inequities in various areas, including social infrastructure funding, mobility such as active transportation and public transit, healthcare services, LGBTQ2S+ services, immigrant and newcomer services, childcare services, and support for families, youth, seniors, and people with disabilities. The City of Vancouver is responsible for resource allocation and service delivery for some of these areas, but not all.

¹ Report produced by South Van Neighbourhood House and Simon Fraser University (SFU) Urban Studies and Health Sciences.

In 2021, South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (SVNH) launched the *Reframing South Vancouver Initiative*, an engagement process aimed at elevating historically underrepresented voices, which has engaged over 6,000 South Vancouver residents over four years. Inspired by the *Reframing South Vancouver* initiative, *Reframing Marpole* was launched by Marpole Neighbourhood House (MNH) in 2023 and carried out inclusive engagement that reached over 2,600 residents and aimed to amplify underrepresented voices and prioritize marginalized populations in this underserved neighbourhood.

In [June 2023](#), Council passed the motion “[Addressing Ongoing Inequities by Improving Social Infrastructure and Access to Services Across South Vancouver and Marpole Neighbourhoods](#)”, directing staff to discuss with SVNH and MNH a potential City grant contribution to support the refinement and prioritization of potential actions related to the *Reframing* initiatives. The motion also directed staff to develop Operating and Capital Budget recommendations to Council to address the historic under-resourcing of these neighbourhoods in service areas within City of Vancouver jurisdiction.

In response to the motion, Council approved grants to both SVNH and MNH in 2023 and 2024 to carry out community engagement related to identifying needed improvements and investments to the neighbourhood. This amounted to \$280,324 granted in December 2023 ([December 13, 2023; RTS 15569](#)), and \$301,450 in November 2024 ([November 27, 2024; RTS 16145](#)).

On September 24, 2025, SVNH and MNH sent a letter to Mayor and Council requesting \$340,000 in renewed funding to sustain the progress of the *Reframing* initiatives (see Appendix C). In their letter, they noted that continued support would solidify *Reframing* as a model for inclusive, neighbourhood-rooted engagement that advances the City's Equity Framework, Healthy City, and Anti-Racism strategies.

The City's role in supporting the *Reframing* initiatives has been limited to providing grant funding and participating in Partners Tables to support identification of capital priorities by both neighbourhood houses. The grants provided between 2023 and 2025 were identified as time-limited funding opportunities to support community-led work to advance the 2023 Council direction. The work has since been completed, and there is not an ongoing funding source for this grant support, outside of established grant programs. As such, the grant funding will not be renewed in 2026. Staff provided an update to SVNH and MNH in mid-November, including information on how to apply for future grant cycles in 2026 within established grant programs.

DISCUSSION

June 2023 Motion: “Improving Social Infrastructure and Access to Services in South Vancouver and Marpole”

Between 2023 to 2025, several departmental initiatives were advanced in South Vancouver and Marpole that relate to the historic under-resourcing considerations outlined in the motion. See Appendix A for details.

Identifying Priority Areas for the 2027-2030 Capital Plan

Beginning in June 2025, staff held virtual and in-person Partners Table meetings in collaboration with SVNH, MNH, and their community partners. The Partners Table meetings were an opportunity for staff to hear about the findings from both neighbourhood houses on the *Reframing* projects in response to the 2023 Council direction, and to provide information on work to date in South Vancouver and Marpole. See Appendix B for a list of attendees at the 2025 Partners Tables.

Through the Partners Table engagement from June to October 2025, SVNH, MNH, and their respective community partners identified the following priority areas of work in their neighbourhoods in line with the *Reframing* work:

- **Transportation:** E.g., traffic calming, slow streets, greenways, pedestrian amenities, transit improvements, active transportation improvements, new and repaired sidewalks.
- **Local Amenities:** E.g., more retail, grocery stores, restaurants, and places open in the evenings, youth-focused amenities.
- **Public Realm Improvements:** E.g., free, or low-cost gathering spaces or “third spaces,” both indoor and outdoor, parks with infrastructure for active living, cooling spaces and spray stations, more public plazas, parklets, street lighting and light poles, washrooms.
- **Food Security:** E.g., the South Vancouver Community Food Hub², cultural food retail businesses, community gardens, farmers’ markets.

Priority areas related to the 2027-2030 Capital Plan will be considered where appropriate as a part of the capital plan planning process in Q1-Q2 2026 for Council decision in 2026.

September 2025 Motion: “Creating Connections: Advancing a Transformative Active Transportation Pathway in South Vancouver”

Transportation emerged as a key theme during the South Vancouver engagements, particularly active transportation, public transit, and the need for improvements along the Kent Avenue corridor.

In [September 2025](#), Council passed the motion “[Creating Connections: Advancing a Transformative Active Transportation Pathway in South Vancouver](#)” directing staff to collaborate with partners (CPKC, TransLink, and the Musqueam Indian Band) to extend an active transportation pathway along the Kent Avenue corridor in South Vancouver and to report back with costs, plans, and alignment to City strategies.

This fall, staff will be conducting follow-up engagement on improvements to the Kent Ave greenway proposed between Victoria Drive and Elliott Street (Phase 1). This engagement will bring forward an updated proposal to address short-cutting issues and improve the comfort for people cycling. The updated proposal would use interim materials, where possible, to maintain flexibility while discussions about using the rail corridor are ongoing.

NEXT STEPS

As directed by Council in the June 2023 motion, staff will work internally in Q1 2026 to incorporate, where appropriate, the South Vancouver priority capital areas into the 2027-2030 Capital Plan for Council consideration and decision in 2026. This work will complete the direction from the June 2023 motion. Staff will continue to work with both neighbourhood houses on future grant opportunities.

For the September 2025 active transportation motion, staff will report back to Council with an update by Q2 2026.

² In November 2020, SVNH launched the South Vancouver Community Food Hub to provide weekly emergency grocery boxes with healthy, culturally appropriate food to individuals and families living in the South Vancouver catchment area.

FINAL REMARKS

Should Council have any questions arising from this update, please contact us directly and we will work with the relevant staff on responses through the weekly Q&As.



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APPENDIX A:
Summary of City Work in South Vancouver & Marpole, 2023-2025

Department	Summary of Work
Arts, Culture and Community Services (ACCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) Youth Violence Prevention Projects</u>: Artistic Atlas Middle Years Project (South Vancouver Family Place), Bloom (South Vancouver Neighborhood House), Palarong Pinoy 2025 (South Vancouver Neighborhood House and David Thompson Secondary). • <u>BSCP Youth Violence Prevention Hubs</u>: Multiyear Program Funding to coordinate the delivery of youth violence prevention activities with children, youth, and families. • <u>West Fraserlands (Salmon Stone Childcare Centre)</u>: New City-owned 69-space childcare facility opened November 2025. • <u>East Fraserlands Community Centre</u>: Development project (in design development phase) that will include a 74-space childcare facility. • <u>Community and Social Grants</u>: Total grant support to South Van area (2024 & 2025) of 1.5M in Community Services and other Social grants including annual support for NH, childcare enhancement and capital grants, core support grants, and the Building Safer Communities Program as noted above. • <u>Weather Response</u>: COV Housing Services collaborated with Marpole Neighbourhood House to activate as a Warming Centre during periods of extreme cold. • <u>Homelessness Services Grants</u>: Support for Marpole Neighbourhood House and South Vancouver Neighbourhood House. • <u>South Vancouver Food Hub</u>: The 2023-2026 Capital Plan includes \$300,000 in funding to for the maintenance and scaling up of the Food Hub. • <u>Engagement on the Historical Discrimination of South Asian Canadians Project</u>: In-person and survey engagement in Vancouver with a heavy focus on the South Vancouver area, including support from SVNH, on historical discrimination of South Asian Canadians and its continuing intergenerational impact. • <u>Engagement in support of the “Placekeeping Motion”</u>: Engagement citywide including a mandated focus on South Vancouver neighbourhoods with small, independent businesses and community organizations for the protection and promotion of Cultural Food Assets and Intangible Cultural Heritage in response to a 2022 motion.
Engineering Services (ENG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Public Realm</u>: Active work is underway with community partners, Neighbourhood Houses and BIAs in Victoria, Sunset and Marpole neighbourhoods to scope further public space opportunities and public realm improvements. • <u>Plazas</u>: Plaza implemented at 48th Ave and Fraser St in 2023; Plaza now located at 50th Ave and Main St in 2025. • <u>Punjabi Market</u>: Welcome feature being planned as part of cultural redress response in the area. • <u>Transit improvements</u>: Marpole Transit Centre off-site improvements (waterfront path adjacent to site), Route 80, a new express bus between Marine Drive Station and the River District on weekday peak periods. TransLink's Area Transport Plan (2026) is anticipated to plan for both new and realigned bus services in South Vancouver. • <u>Bus Stop and Accessibility Improvements</u>: Added bus zone signage at 50 stops on Routes 26 & 29 to address issues with vehicles parking in bus

	<p>zones, affecting accessibility; annually upgrade bus stops for accessibility – about 15 of 20 bus stops improvements in 2024 are in South Vancouver.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Traffic Calming</u>: Sunset (Moberly Park Area), Killarney Northeast, Oak St area. • <u>Street Paving and Other Repairs</u>: 2023 Fraser St repaving from 41st to north of SE Marine Dr, Knight St repaving, Minor curb bulges, curb ramps, and sidewalk repairs (improving two sidewalks adjacent to the rail at Fraser St & Kent and Main St & Kent). • <u>Planned Transportation Projects (Beyond 2025)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Pedestrian and Public Realm Improvements</u>: Main St (47th Ave to 51st Ave), East Fraser Lands Stairs (Marine Way to SE Marine Dr). ○ <u>Bike Lane Improvements</u>: Ontario Greenway Upgrades, Masumi Mitsui Greenway Upgrades, Kerr-McHardy-Skeena Bikeway Upgrades, 45th Avenue Bikeway upgrades, Borden St Bikeway Upgrades, Kent Avenue Bikeway upgrades, Hudson St Bikeway Upgrades. ○ <u>Complete Streets</u>: Cambie Complete Street upgrades between King Edward Ave and Kent Ave N. • <u>Tree Canopy</u>: Expanded tree canopy in Sunset neighbourhood and in the process of expanding the tree canopy in the River District.
Parks and Recreation (PB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Marpole Community Centre</u>: Renewed community centre with services to support the growing local community including gym, fitness centre, studios, sensory room, multi-purpose spaces, kitchen, and fieldhouse with change and washrooms for sport field users. Site also includes a childcare centre, basketball courts, an outdoor performance space, and gathering area. Scheduled occupancy in late 2026. • <u>Sunset Seniors' Centre</u>: Moved from design phase into the construction phase, with construction anticipated to complete in Winter 2026. • <u>Recreation Services</u>: Diverse programming, social programs, and art programs that serve the 2SLQBTQ+ community and a variety of grass roots art and culture programming for all ages.
Vancouver Emergency Management Services (VEMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Extreme Heat Planning</u>: Supporting the Healthy City Scholar Research to better understand the breadth and depth of relationships and networks that coordinate actions across multiple sectors during extreme heat events (EHE); grants to Neighbourhood Houses for extreme heat readiness and resilience; workshops for DIY air cleaners; and other supports and services related to extreme heat and poor air quality.
Vancouver Public Library (VPL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marpole Branch hours of operation on Sunday extended from half day to full day. • South Hill Branch open an additional day on Mondays.
Intergovernmental Relations (IGR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On July 18, 2023, IGR supported the Mayor's Office to send two letters – one to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and the Minister of Health and another to the Minister of Health, Minister of Education and Childcare and the Minister of State for Childcare – outlining specific health and childcare issues experienced by South Vancouver residents and requesting consultation on these issues.

APPENDIX B: **Partners Tables Composition**

Marpole Partners Table

- Marpole Neighbourhood House
- Marpole Community Centre
- Marpole Oakridge Family Place
- Marpole Mutual Aid Network
- VPL Marpole Oakridge Library
- Churchill Secondary School
- Joy Kogawa House
- St. Augustine's Parish
- Progressive Sealing

South Vancouver Partners Table

- South Vancouver Neighbourhood House
- TransLink
- Movement
- Sunset on Fraser BIA
- Sunset Community Centre
- Vancouver Public Library (South Hill Branch)
- South Vancouver Family Place
- SVNH Board Chair
- HUB Cycling
- West Fraserlands community advocate
- Work BC Van-South, YWCA
- Disability Alliance BC
- SFU Urban Studies
- SFU Faculty of Health Sciences
- SFU Youth.hood representative
- St. Thomas Anglican Church
- John Oliver Secondary School
- Champlain Heights Community Centre Association

APPENDIX C:
Letter from South Vancouver Neighbourhood House and Marpole Neighbourhood House
to Mayor and Council (Sept. 24, 2025)



September 24, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Maintenance of Funding for Reframing South Vancouver and Marpole Initiatives

In 2025, South Vancouver (SVNH) and Marpole (MNH) Neighbourhood Houses received a total of \$301K to deliver meaningful community-driven engagement and address the inequities listed in the [2021 South Vancouver Equity Report](#). In the report, we identified a lack of social infrastructure in our communities. It also highlighted that traditional ways of organizing services, programs and supports were not effectively responding to the layered realities of large numbers of racialized residents, newcomers, inter-generational families, and vulnerable communities. Unwilling to continue to accept these injustices, we launched our Reframing initiatives to conduct what has amounted to a generational shift in engagement with the City of Vancouver's urban governance processes as a whole in order to articulate our needs and advocate for our interests, which have been neglected for far too long.

Reframing has been a bridge between the City and the residents. Although we have made meaningful progress, the work continues to need an ongoing partnership with the City to further its proven impact into its next phase. While the City's investment in 2025 gave us the core funding we needed this past year, Reframing Initiatives have been bolstered by further financial support from multiple funders and funding streams. Currently, Reframing employs approximately seven staff across South Vancouver and Marpole. It offers a pathway to engagement, effective voice in matters that pertain to their lives, and collective advocacy efforts that are in the interest of quality of life in our neighbourhoods – for over 130,000 residents, or approximately 20% of the City's population. We are asking for a continued investment of \$150K for Marpole, and \$190K for South Vancouver Reframing Initiatives, totaling \$340K.

To discontinue the funding for the Reframing Initiatives would undo the foundation of equity work in South Vancouver and Marpole, that has been done to elevate the community's voice relative to the City's *Healthy City Strategy, Equity Framework, and VanPlay and Culture/Shift plans*.

The risks of discontinued funding for our communities:

- Momentum in both South Van and Marpole neighbourhoods is put on hold/efforts are stalled and any progress reverts back by years.
- Years of groundwork dissolve into "another consultation with no follow-through."
- Pulling back support may erode trust built between community members, community organizations, small businesses, and City partners.
- The momentum of ongoing progress that we have established together toward inclusive, community-driven planning may be halted or reversed.
- Decreased community resiliency, if we are forced to stop convening Reframing initiatives due to lack of funds, exacerbating residents' already-limited access to programs and services and worsening social inequities.
- We have engaged in a research partnership with SFU and UBC to revisit and update the 2021 South Vancouver Equity Report. We hope to have the evidence to demonstrate a story of meaningful transformation in relationship and in service provision, via a partnership approach as well as policy change.