

From: ["van Dyk, Donny"](#)

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

Date: 4/10/2026 1:23:00 PM

Subject: Council Memo – Car Free Days 2026 – Event Delivery Plan – RTS 18553

Attachments: Council Memo - Car Free Days 2026 – Event Delivery Plan - RTS 18553.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Council approved a one-time grant of up to \$30,000 to support delivery of the 2026 Car Free Day events, with funding managed within the 2026 operating budget.
- Two events are planned: Commercial Drive (September 5, 2026) and Main Street (September 13, 2026).
- The Main Street event footprint will be reduced by approximately six blocks to support a more streamlined and cost-effective delivery, while the Commercial Drive footprint will remain unchanged.
- The City's Film and Special Events (FASE) office will oversee event delivery through established permitting and coordination processes, consistent with previous years.
- A cross-departmental FEST review will be completed by May 2026 to assess event readiness, documentation, safety, traffic management, and inter-agency coordination.

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,  
Donny

Donny van Dyk (he/him)  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱ ḵ y̱ m̱ (Musqueam), S̱ wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s̱ lilw̱ ta̱ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

April 10, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Donny van Dyk, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager  
Chris Freek, Director of Civic Engagement & Communications  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Teresa Jong, Administrative 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: Car Free Days 2026 – Event Delivery Plan

RTS #: 18553

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### Background

This memo provides an update on the Car Free Days 2026 event delivery plan in advance of the distribution of funds, as directed by Council through the motion passed on March 10, 2026.

### Overview

Following Council approval of a one-time grant of up to \$30,000, the 2026 Car Free Day events are anticipated to proceed as follows:

- Commercial Drive Car Free Day – September 5, 2026
- Main Street Car Free Day – September 13, 2026

As identified by the event organizer, the Main Street event footprint will be reduced by approximately six city blocks in 2026, allowing for a more streamlined and cost-effective event delivery. The Commercial Drive event footprint will remain consistent with previous years. The overall event format and delivery approach are expected to align with previous Car Free Day events and will be delivered in accordance with standard City requirements.

### Event Delivery Plan

The City of Vancouver Film and Special Events (FASE) office will support delivery of the 2026 Car Free Day events through the City's established event permitting and coordination process.

As part of this process, FASE will convene the Festival Expediting Staff Team (FEST) to undertake a comprehensive, cross-departmental review of event plans for both locations, with completion targeted for May 2026. These reviews will include:

- Evaluation and approval of required event documentation, including traffic management plans, site plans, safety plans, and production schedules.
- Oversight of event planning progression through key permitting milestones to confirm readiness prior to permit issuance.
- Ongoing coordination with internal and external partners, including Engineering Services, Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services, and other relevant stakeholders.

### **Financial Implication**

The one-time grant of up to \$30,000 will be managed from within the 2026 operating budget.

Staff will continue to lead the event permitting processes to support the safe, coordinated, and successful delivery of both events.

If you have any questions please contact me directly.



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

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