From: "van Dyk, Donny"
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 6/30/2026 12:27:09 PM
Subject: ENG - Council MEMO - Commercial 8th Ave Fence (Grandview Cut) RTS 018687
Attachments: ENG - Memo to Mayor & Council - Commercial 8th Ave Fence.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

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

- Existing fencing type and previous upgrade history at Commercial Dr and E 8th Ave.
- City-wide challenges related to fence management.
- Planned improvements to the fence at this location to minimize unauthorized access.
- Interim measures, such as regular inspections, repairs, and signage.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or 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 xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

CITY OF VANCOUVER

ENGINEERING SERVICES
Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
City Engineer/General Manager

MEMORANDUM

June 29, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: City Leadership Team
Donny van Dyk, City Manager
Jason Twa, City Clerk
Mellisa Morphy, Acting Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Update on fencing at Commercial Drive and E 8th Ave

RTS #: 018687

The existing fence along 1500–1600 E 8th Avenue, situated on the Grandview Cut slope (see Figure 1 for extent), consists of two fence types: a standard chain-link fence along the western portion and an upgraded chain-link fence along the eastern portion. The upgraded fence was installed in 2024 (see Figure 2) as a pilot project to evaluate its effectiveness in providing a more secure and durable barrier for the area.

The purpose of this memo is to summarize mitigation measures that staff will implement to further reduce unauthorized access to the fenced area.

Restricting unauthorized access using fencing is challenging, as fences are often subject to vandalism that can compromise their effectiveness. This is an ongoing issue observed at multiple locations across the City, requiring regular maintenance. Below are two mitigation measures that staff are pursuing to minimize unauthorized access at 1500-1600 E8th Avenue location:

1. **Fence Upgrade (West Side):**
   Replace the existing chain-link fence along the western portion of the site with a taller, more robust chain-link fence comparable to the upgraded installation on the eastern side. This enhancement may increase resistance to cutting and unauthorized entry.

2. **Fence Base Reinforcement:**
   Reinforce the base along the full length of the fence to deter attempts to dig beneath it. This measure will reduce the likelihood of unauthorized access from below.

In the interim, staff are conducting regular site inspections and repairing any damage to the fence as it occurs. Additionally, signage will be installed throughout the site within the next two weeks to remind the public that access to the restricted area is prohibited.

Please contact me directly for any further questions.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services
604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca

Appendix A



Figure 1 – Location (outlined area shows approximate City property)



Figure 2 – Photo of the upgraded, eight feet tall chain-link fence