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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council -

Date: 5/4/2026 1:08:26 PM

Subject: FWC26 Update - 40 days away

Attachments: Memo to Mayor & Council - FWC26 Council Update - 2026.05.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

The attached memo provides an update on key activities underway as Vancouver prepares to host the FIFA World Cup 26™ (FWC26), providing information on activities and achievements since you received the last update memo on April 10, 2026.

Included as attachments to the memo are (a) key messages concerning stadium-area access, the Host City Human Rights Action Plan, the FIFA Fan Festival Vancouver, event safety and security,

and event sponsorships, and (b) detailed information concerning the stadium-area Local Traffic Access Pass Program.

All the information in this memo is public.

Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca telephone

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the traditional territories of the xʷmʔkʔyʔm/Musqueam, Sʷwx_wú7mesh/Squamish and sʔilwʔtaʔ/Tsleil-Waututh nations

MEMORANDUM

May 4, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Donny van Dyk, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, 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
Jessie Adcock, Host Committee Lead and Chief Delivery Officer

FROM: Karen Levitt
Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT: FWC26 Council Update

RTS #: N/A

Dear Mayor and Council,

This memo provides an update on key activities underway as Vancouver prepares to host the FIFA World Cup 26™ (FWC26). As the time of this memo, we are 40 days away from the first Vancouver match. Below you will find an update on key activities and achievements since you received the last update memo on April 10, 2026.

Attachment 1 to this memo contains key messages concerning stadium-area access, the Host City Human Rights Action Plan, the FIFA Fan Festival Vancouver, event safety and security, and event sponsorships.

All information in this memo is public.

Community/business outreach, stakeholder engagement and media relations

- *Residential and business briefings/consultations.* Community outreach is ongoing, with an increase in direct inquiries from residents, businesses, and community organizations as operational planning progresses. Key outreach activities over the past two weeks include:
 - An online, all-business information session on community activation was held April 14, with approximately 150 attendees. The recording will be posted to the FWC26 website, and V3 of the Community Activation Plan is available online: [Community Activation](#).

- The Host Committee and the City's Business and Economy Office continue to respond to inquiries regarding match day access, with a current focus on Plaza of Nations tenants in advance of the Pacific Boulevard road closure scheduled to begin on May 23rd. Key messages regarding stadium-area access are appended to this memo.
- A joint briefing was held on accessibility and the draft Human Rights Action Plan for the Person with Disabilities Advisory Committee and the Older Persons and Elders Advisory Committee.
- The Host Committee also met with the Chinatown Advisory Committee to provide an event overview and discuss wayfinding and other tournament-related considerations.
- *Upcoming briefings/consultations.* Two public-facing information sessions are planned in the stadium area – one for businesses and one for residents – to focus on transportation and transit, scheduled for May 7 and May 11.
 - In advance of the sessions, a postcard was mailed to approximately 14,000 residents, businesses, and other stakeholders, arriving the week of April 27th.
 - The sessions are being promoted via social media, and all information will be available on the FWC26 Community Hub webpage, including details on the City's temporary "Local Traffic Access Pass."
 - Questions from residents and businesses may also be directed to 311, and as well, business inquiries can be referred to business@vancouver.ca.
- *Media inquiries.* Between March 31st and April 17th, the FWC26 Host Committee's media team responded to 18 media inquiries on the following topics: Coca-Cola Trophy Tour, parking, heat plans, housing/homelessness, safety and security, media and FIFA Fan Festival accreditation, CCTV, the "Know Before You Go" campaign, tournament readiness, and the FIFA Fan Festival.

Event venues

- *BC Place.* The Vancouver Whitecaps FC played their last home match before FWC26 in the stadium on Saturday, April 25th. The FWC26 pitch install preparations began on April 26th, and will continue for several weeks in advance of the FIFA exclusive use period beginning mid-May.
- *The Spectator Route ("The Last Mile").* The Spectator Route starts near Science World and wraps around False Creek – it is the path all non-VIP ticketholders will take to enter BC Place for a match. Activation and infrastructure plans to support pedestrian routes have been developed, and detailed match day ingress and egress planning is now being finalized across all delivery agencies. Most site preparation for this is at this point nearing completion.
- *Broadcast compound.* In preparation for FWC26, a temporary broadcast compound is being established adjacent to BC Place. A cable bridge has been installed to carry power and broadcast signal cabling between the stadium and the compound to support global media operations.
- *Killarney training site.* The workforce and media trailers for the Killarney Training Site have been delivered and are now in place in the Killarney Community Centre parking lot. The site is currently preparing for the FIFA exclusive use period, during which it will be handed over to FIFA to begin its load-in, and no public access will be allowed.

- *Mobility planning.* Stadium road closures will begin in mid-May, with notification message boards having been installed by April 24th.
 - A bike detour from Pacific Boulevard will be installed as part of this closure, alongside modifications to the intersection of Nelson and Pacific to ensure access to businesses and residents on Smithe will continue.
 - Early changes to parking regulations and loading zones in the stadium vicinity will also be installed as part of this work.
 - Notification to waste haulers in the stadium vicinity also be distributed by Engineering Services in early May.
 - Distribution of Local Traffic Access Passes will begin in early May (see Attachment 1 for more detail).

Volunteer program

- *Volunteer shift restrictions.* The FWC26 Host Committee has learned that, as part of the standardized FIFA Volunteer Program across all host countries, all volunteer shifts will conclude by 11.45 pm. Operational plans have been adjusted accordingly, with no anticipated impacts to service delivery.
- *Volunteer uniforms.* FIFA will unveil the official Adidas volunteer uniform in early May. The Host City is aligned with this timeline and preparing for distribution and implementation.

Signage, dressing and wayfinding

- *Banners.* Street pole banner installation began on April 8th along the key airport-to-Vancouver Convention Centre protocol route, and is progressing in phases across priority corridors in close coordination with the BIAs. Full program installation is targeted for completion by early June.
- *Building dressings.* Exterior and interior dressing elements at Waterfront Station have been installed ahead of FIFA Congress. Installation for City Hall dressing is targeted to start May 8th. Agreements with property owners are advancing to install exterior dressing across several other downtown sites.

Public viewing events

- *Public viewing parties.* FIFA Canada has received approximately 40 applications within Vancouver for public viewing event licences.
 - Most of these applications are associated with existing businesses operating within their approved use and capacity, and will not require additional City event permitting to proceed.
 - A smaller subset of viewing party applications that do not fall within these parameters are currently under review by the City – to assess public safety resourcing capacity, mobility considerations, and overall operational coordination.

Human rights

- *Human Rights Action Plan consultations.* The Host Committee has invited 65 community-serving organizations to participate in follow-up consultation sessions that took place on May 1st, in anticipation of finalizing the Host City Human Rights Action Plan by the end of May.

- *Key messages.* Key messages for the Host Committee's development of a Host City Human Rights Action Plan are appended to this memo.

Safety and security

- *Largescale exercise.* The Host City, led by the City's Vancouver Emergency Management Agency (VEMA), led a successful full-scale multi-agency critical incident simulation exercise on April 16th.
- Key messages surrounding safety and security planning are appended to this memo.

FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver

- *Fan Festival program.* On April 27, the FWC26 Host Committee announced more than 60 free performances at Fan Festival Park Stage. Combined with the previously-announced Amphitheatre concert series, the program will deliver 28 days of live entertainment throughout FWC26, positioning the FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver among the largest live music experiences ever staged in the city.
- *Mobility planning.* Extensive mobility planning is being finalized for the Fan Festival, including the establishment of two green hub locations with full-service bike valets (that is, no self-parking). All vehicles will be stored securely within fenced and staffed areas with on-site security, and free day-use lockers will be available.

Marketing and events

- *Coca Cola trophy tour.* The Coca-Cola Trophy Tour kicked off its cross-Canada journey in Vancouver on April 10th/11th. Over 12,000 people showed up at the Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza for a chance to participate and have their photo taken with the trophy. The event was highlighted by a press conference, and generated extensive media and influencer coverage. FIFA Canada also hosted an activation at Robson Square Rink, featuring community matches led by local pro soccer clubs, mascot appearances and more.
- *Dear Soccer campaign.* To build awareness and excitement around the FWC26 event, in early March 2026 the Host Committee launched the Dear Soccer campaign, inviting the community to share their memories, traditions and personal connections to soccer, for a chance to win one of ten FIFA World Cup prize packs. Submissions can be viewed [on the website](#), and selected quotes will be featured in a tournament-time campaign celebrating our collective love letter to the beautiful game.
- *Host City Champions Program sales promotion.* To support sales of Host City sponsorship packages, the Host Committee has launched a targeted marketing campaign to run through to the end of May – including out-of-home advertising at BC Place, digital advertising and owned channels.
- *FIFA Congress.* The FIFA Congress successfully took place in Vancouver on April 30th. This was a FIFA-delivered event, separate from the Vancouver Host City responsibilities. As such, the FWC26 Host Committee was not responsible for the planning, operations, or delivery of the Congress.

Business outreach, tourism and economic development

- *Business support.* The City's Business and Economy Office continues to work with individual businesses to support activation planning and operational adjustments due to road and local access impacts around the stadium.

- A consolidated schedule of matches, significant downtown activations and notable events (e.g., cruise ship arrivals) has been shared with the hospitality industry to support informed business planning that can accommodate increased visitor flows.
- *Business hosting.* The BC Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth is leading a substantial economic development/business hosting effort, the centrepiece of which is BC Business House, which will operate daily on the second floor of the Vancouver Convention Centre West building, from June 10th to July 11th.
 - Seven official receptions will be held at BC Business House, with each focused on a specific sector (mining, trade and logistics, agriculture, defense, life sciences, technology, natural gas/liquified natural gas).
 - Sponsorship packages are available, and sector familiarization tours will be offered through Invest Vancouver.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

All the best,



Karen Levitt
Deputy City Manager

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ATTACHMENT 1 KEY MESSAGES

Stadium-area access

1. Temporary access changes around the Plaza of Nations are required to meet FIFA security standards and to support the safe, well-coordinated delivery of tournament operations. Road closure maps can be found here: [Road Closures](#).
2. Businesses can remain open, and walking, rolling and cycling will maintain access via the seawall.
3. Plaza of Nations access: Pacific Boulevard will be open until mid-May, then closed to all traffic, including cars, bikes, and pedestrians, through mid-July.
4. The seawall will remain open and will be the main way to get to the site leading up to and during the tournament.
5. Deliveries and service vehicles are welcome on non-match days and should be coordinated with FIFA; further information will be shared by FIFA shortly.

Host City Human Rights Action Plan

1. On February 19, 2026, the Host Committee published a first draft of the FWC26 Vancouver Host City Human Rights Action Plan, outlining how the City is integrating human rights considerations into planning and delivery of the event. The Host Committee is targeting late May 2026 to publish the finalized plan.
2. Between the two versions, the Host Committee will build on the preliminary priority actions established in the first draft by providing further operational details, taking additional community feedback and consultation into account.
3. FWC26 Host Committees have a limited scope of operational jurisdiction, which does not include the FIFA World Cup stadium grounds, which are managed by FIFA during the exclusive use period, nor systemic issues that transcend FWC26.
4. Development and implementation of a Host City Human Rights Action Plan is a FIFA requirement for all sixteen FWC26 host cities. The City's plan builds on this requirement by aligning with FIFA's global framework, which is designed to provide a consistent human rights baseline across all host countries, recognizing that legal and regulatory environments vary internationally.
5. The Action Plan outlines the City's policy framework, governance context and actions as a Host City to mitigate potential negative human rights impacts and to pursue positive outcomes associated with planning and delivering the event.
6. The City's goal is to, as feasible and reasonable, mitigate impacts and provide targeted supports related to specific vulnerable communities who may be negatively impacted by large scale sporting events.

FIFA Fan Festival Vancouver

1. The FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver will be BC's largest fan destination for live match viewing and soccer experiences during the FIFA World Cup™ this summer.

2. Entry to the FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver site at the PNE is free for fans of all ages, creating a truly accessible event.
3. Premium experiences will be available, including reserved seating within the Festival's amphitheatre. These areas will feature live FIFA World Cup™ match broadcasts on large screens, a headline performance, and additional entertainment between matches, as well as a dedicated fast-track lane at the Festival gates.
4. A portion of the amphitheatre experience will remain free and open to all fans. The free general admission floor, which has an estimated capacity of 2,600, will be available and open on a first come first served basis on all match days.
5. Combined with the previously announced amphitheatre concert series, the additional 60+ artists announced for the Park Stage will deliver 28 days of live entertainment throughout the FIFA World Cup 2026™, positioning the FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver among the largest live music experiences ever staged in the city.

Safety and security

1. Delivering the best possible FIFA World Cup 26 Vancouver™ experience for everyone includes ensuring a safe and secure environment. Vancouver's Integrated Safety and Security Unit (ISSU), which is co-led by the City along with the Vancouver Police Department and Province of BC, is responsible for the overall coordination, planning and provision of safety and security, working closely with a wide range of safety, security, and medical service partners.
2. To support public safety during this major international event, the City and VPD are deploying a temporary CCTV network across six designated event zones directly associated with FIFA activities. Learn more: vancouver.ca/cctv
 - a. These cameras support real-time situational awareness, crowd-flow monitoring, emergency response coordination, and protection of restricted areas.
 - b. They are not used for tracking, profiling, or identification of individuals.
 - c. No facial recognition or biometric technologies are used.
 - d. The cameras being installed now are not yet operational. They are undergoing site testing only.
 - e. During testing, privacy filters are applied, and no images are recorded.
 - f. The system will activate for the duration of the FWC26 Vancouver from June 7 to July 19, 2026. After that, cameras will be turned off, and the temporary network will be fully decommissioned and uninstalled.
3. Due to the requirements of hosting a global event of this size, the seven FWC26 match days will require more police resources than any other single sporting event day in Vancouver.
4. The current FWC26 Vancouver financial plan is available in this [June 2025 release](#), with a breakdown of how those costs are shared between federal, provincial and municipal contributors. The next financial update will be shared in spring 2026.

Sponsorships: The Host City Champions program

1. Organisations and individuals can access curated experiences through the Host City Champions program. Packages can incorporate all-inclusive match-day suites and hospitality, official Host City merchandise, and/or FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver hosting.
2. All-inclusive hospitality packages include preferred entry, premium access, FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver access, and merchandise.
3. Packages are customizable for every group to ensure your guests have exactly the experience they are looking for.
4. A full-day experience includes: three hours pre-match to two hours post-match, with gourmet food, premium alcohol included.
5. This is a guaranteed way to secure FWC26 tickets.
6. Learn more at: [Commercial Opportunities](#) or for more information, email Chris May, General Manager of BC Place at cmay@bcpavco.com

ATTACHMENT 2. STADIUM-AREA LOCAL TRAFFIC ACCESS PASS PROGRAM

To ensure safety and security of the FWC26 event, there will be temporary road closures and restrictions around BC Place Vancouver and False Creek: [Road Closures](#).

- Mobility planning has centred on providing efficient movement for spectators to and from the stadium while ensuring that impacts on resident and business access are minimized.
- During the busy summer period, people are encouraged to walk, bike or use enhanced transit service.
- For those who live or work on local-access-only streets in the stadium area and require vehicle access, a Local Traffic Access Pass (LTAP) program will support continued access on match days.
- The Host Committee is sharing more information with the public on the temporary LTAP in early May.

Local Access Traffic Pass Program Overview

- The Local Access Traffic Pass Program is a temporary program that allows eligible stadium-area residents, businesses and organizations to access private, off-street parking in their buildings on match days when traffic management restrictions are in place. A pass is only needed if you are driving. You can walk, bike and roll without a pass.
- The LTAP program is designed to accommodate a broad range of user groups, including:
 - *Residents*. Will be mailed one pass by mail and can request up to two more online (for example, for a second vehicle or visitors), allowing in total up to three passes per suite.
 - *Short-term rental host*. Can request up to six additional passes for guests (seven total) and are responsible for distributing and collecting them.
 - *Businesses*. Will be able to request passes for company vehicles and employees with private parking spaces through a simple online form. Businesses will receive mailed information about ordering passes.
 - *Building operations*. Can request a limited number of passes for building staff with on-site parking (e.g., concierge, building manager).
 - *Schools, daycares and adult day programs*. The Host Committee is coordinating directly with organizations to provide passes, which will be distributed by each organization as needed. Families and caregivers should contact their organization to request a pass.
- The program is not intended to provide general access to the stadium area. On-street parking and stopping will not be permitted due to traffic volumes.
- On match days, the pass should be placed on the vehicle dashboard for police and traffic management staff to visually check at key locations.

Exemptions to road closure restrictions

- Emergency services, including police, fire and ambulance, will have unrestricted access to all affected roads and do not require a pass.

- Healthcare professionals and service providers responding to urgent property protection needs such as flooding, elevator repair, locksmith services or graffiti removal will also be exempt and may present company identification at traffic checkpoints.

Community outreach and pass distribution

- The Host Committee will be holding two online information sessions (May 7 and 11) for residents and businesses to learn more about the tournament, stadium-area travel impacts and helpful tips for planning ahead. Postcards will be sent the week of April 27 with key details and invitations to visit the FWC26 website or attend a session.
- During the week of May 11, residents on “local traffic only” streets will be mailed one pass, and eligible businesses will receive instructions for requesting a pass online. Passes can be mailed to a stadium-area street address or collected in person at the Engineering Client Services Counter (507 West Broadway).