

**From:** **"Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>**  
**To:** **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**  
**Date:** 9/27/2023 3:35:25 PM  
**Subject:** Council Memo - Gastown Program of Work Update - RTS 15971  
**Attachments:** Council Memo - Gastown Program of Work Update - RTS 15971.pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Margaret Wittgens. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- This memo provides an update on the Gastown Public Space Plan deliverables, upcoming engagement and request for proposals.
- Staff plan to report back to Council in early 2024 to outline emerging ideas, summarize outcomes of public engagement, and potentially bring options for next steps. This will provide Council an opportunity to provide further direction on how to advance this work.
- This memo also outlines upcoming project milestones, including the timing for the roadway repair in Maple Tree Square (Spring 2024) and the pedestrian pilot on Water Street (Summer 2024).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Margaret Wittgens at 604-673-8227 or [margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca](mailto:margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca).

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), S<sup>k</sup>wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

September 27, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk  
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office  
Trevor Ford, Interim Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Margaret Wittgens  
Deputy General Manager, Strategy and Planning, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Gastown Program of Work Update

RTS #: 15971

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This memo provides an update on the program of work for Gastown in response to the [Council Motion](#), "A People-Focused Gastown: A Bold, Forward-Looking Vision for a Vibrant and Prosperous Neighbourhood" approved by Council on May 10, 2023.

### **Launch of the Gastown Public Space Plan**

On October 12, staff will launch engagement for the Gastown Public Space Plan.

The Plan will explore:

- Pedestrianizing Water Street to create a vibrant, destination street;
- Ideas/priority for other spaces, streets and laneways in Gastown; and,
- Future improvements to this historic district, including how to establish local Nations visibility on their lands.

Public engagement this fall will focus on:

- Sharing draft objectives;
- Learning about what people think would make Water Street a great pedestrian street;
- Gathering ideas about improving other spaces, streets and laneways; and,
- Understanding local business and resident aspirations and requirements/access to inform the pilot pedestrianization of Water Street in summer 2024.

Staff plan to report to Council in early 2024 to outline emerging ideas, summarize outcomes of public engagement, and potentially bring options for next steps. This will provide Council an opportunity to provide further direction on how to advance this work.

### **Release of requests for proposals**

Two requests for proposals will be released shortly. The first will be for the interim paver repair of the roadway in Maple Tree Square. Staff expect a two to three month construction period between March and June 2024, timed to minimize the impact on businesses in the peak summer months. The paver repair will temporarily fix critical roadway degradation until Gastown Public Space Plan implementation.

The second request for proposals is for a multi-disciplinary consultancy to support the Gastown Public Space Plan, as directed by Council. The scope of work is intended adaptable to respond to public feedback and/or further direction from Council.

### **Upcoming Gastown Milestones**

October 2023:

- Blood Alley Square construction completes and opens to the public.
- Furniture is upgraded in Maple Tree Square.

January 2024:

- Report to Council on Public Space Plan emerging ideas and next steps.

March to June 2024:

- Failing pavers are repaired in Maple Tree Square with materials similar to existing which is expected to last 5+ years. Construction will require re-routing most vehicle traffic at Main St. Water St, between Carrall St (north leg) and Richards St, will be open to motor vehicles.

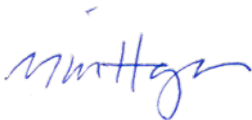
July/August 2024:

- Water St is pedestrianized during the summer months in partnership with the Gastown Business Improvement Society and other community organizations. This will include re-routing vehicle traffic at Main St, with local access maintained for loading, delivery and residential buildings.

2025:

- Trounce Alley is reconstructed to repair damaged surface and integrate with new Blood Alley Square.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions about these initiatives.



Margaret Wittgens, MCIP, RPP  
Deputy General Manager, Strategy and Planning, Engineering Services

604.673.8227 | [margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca](mailto:margaret.wittgens@vancouver.ca)