September 19, 2018

Update: Hastings-Sunrise Adanac Overpass

Dear Resident(s),

In April 2018, the City of Vancouver temporarily restricted private motor vehicle access to the Adanac Overpass during the FortisBC closure of East First Avenue for gas line upgrades. The overpass remains open to transit and emergency vehicles, and continues to provide access for people walking and cycling.

The restriction was in response to resident concerns about non-local traffic shortcutting through the neighbourhood. Traffic counts and monitoring of the Adanac Overpass previously found that over 70 percent of the vehicles using the overpass were non-local traffic. As a result of these findings and resident feedback, the restrictions on the overpass were timed to align with the East First Avenue closure to mitigate additional non-local commuter traffic in the neighbourhood. Throughout the closure, we have been gathering data and monitoring traffic patterns in the neighbourhood.

Temporarily Re-opened: Rupert Street Southbound Connection

We have temporarily opened the Rupert Street southbound transit connection to all motor vehicle traffic to provide a new alternative for residents to exit the neighbourhood. This connection was previously open to buses only.

Temporary Traffic Calming Measures: Ongoing Monitoring

FortisBC has completed much of its work in Vancouver and East First Avenue reopened to traffic on August 30, 2018. However, a portion of East First Avenue below the Highway 1 Overpass and connecting into Burnaby will remain under construction through the fall. We anticipate this work will have continuing traffic impacts in the neighbourhood.

Following the completion of work by FortisBC that is directly impacting traffic on the east side of Vancouver, access to the Adanac Overpass will remain restricted for a few months to prevent short-cutting as traffic patterns stabilize. During this time, staff will gather additional data to monitor changes to traffic in the neighbourhood as East First Avenue is fully reopened.
Once we have more information about traffic patterns, we will engage the community to weigh potential options that address ongoing traffic concerns. This public consultation will take place before further changes are made to the Adanac Overpass and the Rupert Street Southbound Connection.

We understand that the FortisBC closure of East First Avenue and the Adanac Overpass restrictions may have impacted you personally, and appreciate your patience as we continue to monitor traffic patterns in the neighbourhood.

If you have any comments, please email adanac@vancouver.ca or call 3-1-1.

Background
In October 2015, the BC Utilities Commission granted FortisBC approval to replace their natural gas line in Vancouver, Burnaby, and Coquitlam. Construction of the Vancouver portion began in spring 2018 and is primarily focused along East First Avenue from Boundary Road to Woodland Drive.

In May 2017, the City of Vancouver held an open house with Hastings-Sunrise residents to discuss options to address vehicle volumes and speeds on local streets. The temporary closure of the Overpass is in response to neighbourhood concerns and was timed to align with the FortisBC Gas Line Upgrades.

Resources
- Adanac Overpass: vancouver.ca/adanacoverpass
- FortisBC Gas Line Upgrades: talkingenergy.ca/project/fortisbc-gas-line-upgrades

Sincerely,

Lon LaClaire
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Engineering Services
City of Vancouver