Slow Streets – Frequently Asked Questions

What are Slow Streets?
Slow Streets are on existing greenways and local streets where light interventions have been introduced to reduce and slow down traffic, allowing residents to follow physical distancing requirements.

Why is the City slowing streets?
As part of our COVID-19 response, the City has initiated a number of responses to limit large gatherings and mitigate impacts on mobility and public spaces to help people physically distance while exercising and getting fresh air.

What are the benefits of Slow Streets?
Some of the benefits of Slow Streets are that they:

- Support physical distancing
- Create more comfortable routes and spaces for walking, cycling and rolling
- Make it easier to exercise in your local neighbourhood
- Improve access businesses in your local neighbourhood
- Facilitate health and safety of residents

What are the traffic rules for Slow Streets?

- Access for motor vehicles is limited to local traffic only. These streets are slowed, but they are not closed.
- Drive slowly, avoid passing and watch for people on the road.
- Emergency vehicle access, waste/recycling collection is maintained.
- On-street parking is also generally being maintained. On a few streets, we need to make parking changes near intersections by installing new “No Stopping Anytime” signs to provide additional space for vehicles to turn safely around the barriers.
- Pedestrians may pass each other using the roadway.

Will this impact access to my neighbourhood?
Slow Streets will maintain limited access to local traffic only. Additional interim traffic calming, which may include changes to vehicle circulation, will be further reviewed for key locations. On-street parking, access for emergency vehicles and waste/recycling collection will be maintained.

Why are Slow Streets restricted to local access only?
Slow Streets are one part of the City’s efforts to reduce crowding by creating more space for those walking, rolling and cycling while still making sure people who live on the streets have full access.

How were the Slow Streets locations selected?
Slow streets locations and corridors have been selected along residential streets using several factors including:

- traffic volumes
- signalized crossings at busier streets
- equity
- access to greenspace, nearby parks and community amenities
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How can I provide feedback?

- Email slowstreets@vancouver.ca
- Online: [https://vancouver.ca/your-government/contact-the-city-of-vancouver.aspx](https://vancouver.ca/your-government/contact-the-city-of-vancouver.aspx)
- VanConnect App: [https://vancouver.ca/vanconnect-desktop.aspx](https://vancouver.ca/vanconnect-desktop.aspx)
- Phone 3-1-1

Roll out and stages for Slow Streets:

- **Stage 1:** The first stage of Slow Streets installations began on May 22 and will continue through to July using construction-style barriers and local-traffic only signs.
- **Stage 2:** From July to September, we will monitor outcomes and public feedback on the changes to date, along with the installation of tactical traffic calming at key locations.
- **Stage 3:** Beyond September through to 2021 we will gather data and feedback on how walking, cycling, and rolling has changed on these altered streets. This work will inform a review on the possibility of fast-tracking future new greenways, public spaces, and neighbourhood traffic calming projects.