

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vancouver City Council approves grant for Granville Pedestrian Zone

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Today, Vancouver City Council approved a motion awarding a one-time grant to the Downtown Vancouver BIA (Downtown Van) in support of the upcoming Granville Street Pedestrian Zone, an activation set to transform a key downtown corridor into a vibrant pedestrian-focused space during the FIFA World Cup 2026.

“This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to showcase Vancouver on the world stage,” said Sim. “By activating Granville Street during the World Cup, we’re creating a welcoming and energetic gathering place that allows residents and visitors alike to be part of the excitement, regardless of whether they have a match ticket.”

The motion, introduced by Councillor Peter Meiszner, allocates \$300,000 to support programming for the pedestrian zone, complementing an existing \$800,000 contribution from Downtown Van. Programming will focus on pedestrian-friendly activities such as expanded patios, buskers, performances, and interactive installations designed to be accessible and family-friendly.

“Granville Street has long been one of Vancouver’s most iconic gathering places,” said Councillor Peter Meiszner. “The Granville Pedestrian Zone will help bring energy back to the downtown core, support local businesses, and create a vibrant, welcoming space for residents and visitors during one of the biggest global events our city has ever hosted.”

Downtown Van will lead marketing, beautification, placemaking, and street-level programming for the pedestrian zone while City services will support operational needs such as traffic management, street closures, sanitation, and public safety. The Granville Pedestrian Zone will run from June 11th to July 19th, 2026.

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Media Contact:

Taylor Verrall
Press Secretary, Office of the Mayor
taylor.verrall@vancouver.ca