



PORT of
vancouver

Vancouver Fraser
Port Authority

Holdom Overpass Project Phase three engagement summary report



Acknowledgement



First Nations territorial acknowledgment

The Holdom Overpass Project takes place on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Project partners recognize the enduring presence and stewardship of these First Nations communities over these lands and waters since time immemorial. We are committed to a path of reconciliation with the many First Nations whose rich cultural heritage and connection to the land continue to shape the region.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who participated and provided feedback as part of the third phase of engagement for the Holdom Overpass Project. We appreciate your time and value your input. Your feedback is being used to finalize the design of the project and inform a traffic and construction management plan.



About the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is the federal agency responsible for the shared stewardship of the lands and waters that make up the Port of Vancouver.

Our purpose is to enable Canada's trade by being reliable and innovative, while protecting the environment. We are accountable to the federal minister of transport.

Infrastructure projects

The port authority is committed to contributing to new road and rail infrastructure and other supply chain initiatives beyond the port. This helps reduce the impacts of growing trade on local communities while fulfilling our federal mandate to enable Canada's trade objectives through the Port of Vancouver.

This work is supported by the Government of Canada through its National Trade Corridors Fund.

Project partners

Canadian National Railway (CN)

CN powers the economy by safely transporting more than 300 million tons of natural resources, manufactured products, and finished goods throughout North America every year for its customers. With its nearly 20,000-mile rail network and related transportation services, CN connects Canada's Eastern and Western coasts with the U.S. Midwest and the Gulf of Mexico, contributing to sustainable trade and the prosperity of the communities in which it operates since 1919. CN is committed to programs supporting social responsibility and environmental stewardship. Safety is a core value at CN, and CN supports objectives and projects that aim to improve safety for all road users near railways.

How is CN supporting this project?

CN operates trains on the rail line in Burnaby's central valley (known as the New Westminster Subdivision). As a funding partner for the Holdom Overpass Project, CN led the design and construction of ventilation upgrades for Thornton Tunnel and a new rail siding track in Burnaby to improve the flow of trains to and from the port terminals in North Vancouver. These upgrades were completed in 2021 and 2022. With these improvements complete, the amount of time trains waited in Burnaby for the tunnel to vent has been cut in half, meaning more trains per hour can deliver goods to the North Shore terminals for export, and there are fewer trains idling in Burnaby.

City of Burnaby

Burnaby is a vibrant city at the geographic centre of Metro Vancouver. It has an amazing natural environment, a strong cultural mosaic, and thriving town centres. The City of Burnaby provides facilities and services that support a safe, connected, inclusive, healthy and dynamic community. The city works collaboratively with residents, businesses, organizations and other governments to enhance and protect the quality of life of the people who live, work and play in Burnaby.

How is the City of Burnaby supporting this project?

The city is working closely with the port authority to ensure the Holdom Overpass Project meets the needs of the community, including improved safety, enhanced access and connections, reduced travel times, environmental enhancement, and better emergency response. The overpass will also support local goods movements. When the project is complete, the city will take ownership of it.



About the project



Proud to be part of this community


Burnaby


Port activities annually support:

1,400  Direct jobs

\$120  Million in wages

\$410  Million in economic activity

\$2.05  Million in municipal property taxes paid by port tenants

\$34  Thousand in payment in lieu of taxes for vacant port land



Holdom Overpass Project

The Holdom Overpass Project is a new four-lane road that will extend Holdom Avenue south, over the rail corridor and Still Creek, connecting it with Douglas Road.

Once complete, the overpass will replace the Douglas Road rail crossing. As a result, there will be improved safety and connections for the Burnaby community, improved emergency response, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The overpass will also increase transportation efficiency and trade capacity through the port terminals on the North Shore.

As part of the Burnaby Rail Corridor Improvements Project, CN completed the rail improvements in 2022, which included updates to the Thornton Tunnel to reduce the time between trains travelling through the tunnel and a new rail siding track running from Willingdon Avenue to Piper Avenue.

Fast facts



Project lead

- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority



Project partners

- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
- CN
- City of Burnaby
- Transport Canada



Design builder

- Aecon-Gateway Infrastructure Group

Burnaby Rail Corridor Improvements Project



The Holdom Overpass Project will improve access for road users and emergency responders who currently face two hours of traffic delays daily due to the train crossing.

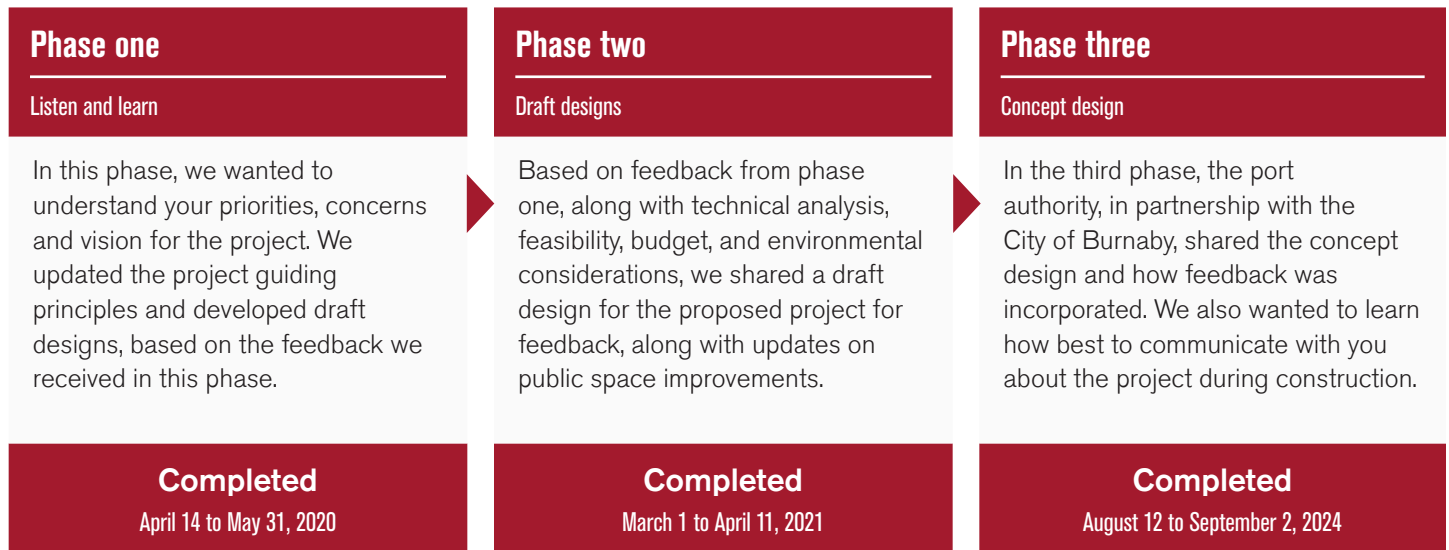
Engagement summary



The port authority has been actively consulting with First Nations on the Holdom Overpass Project since 2019, and will continue to consult as the project progresses. The project is also creating opportunities for First Nations' cultural recognition. The port authority is collaborating with local First Nations to identify opportunities to recognize and celebrate Indigenous culture and history.

Between August 12 and September 2, 2024, the port authority, in partnership with the City of Burnaby and CN, held the third and final phase of public engagement on the Holdom Overpass Project. To ensure people had meaningful opportunities to learn about the project and talk to staff, we

hosted two in-person open houses at the Christine Sinclair Community Centre in Burnaby and developed a discussion guide that was posted to the project webpage. We invited people to share their feedback with us by completing a questionnaire, emailing us or phoning the project team.



How feedback is being used

We are sharing the feedback received from this phase of engagement with the overpass design builder Aecon-Gateway Infrastructure Group and using it—along with technical analysis, feasibility, and budget—to finalize the design of the Holdom Overpass Project and inform a traffic and construction management plan.

Engagement summary

By the numbers



1

phone call



9

emails



2

public open houses



101

combined open house attendees



176

completed questionnaires

Promotion and notification

It is important to us that we connect with as many members of the community as possible. With this in mind, we promoted and advertised the third phase of engagement through the following activities:



Media release

We issued a media release on July 9, 2024, announcing that the project would proceed with the third phase of public engagement and into construction in the coming months.



Postcards

We sent 1,503 postcards through Canada Post to all residential and business properties in the project area.



Digital ads

The port authority ran a digital ad campaign through burnabynow.ca* and the Glacier Media Network between August 12 and September 2, 2024 which included 120,002 impressions and 383 clicks to the engagement website.



Project newsletter

We issued newsletters on July 9 and on August 12, 2024, reaching 404 recipients.



Social media ads

We ran two paid social media ads from August 12 to September 2, 2024, and reached approximately 542,000 people.

*The Burnaby Now community newspaper is now online only.

Engagement activities

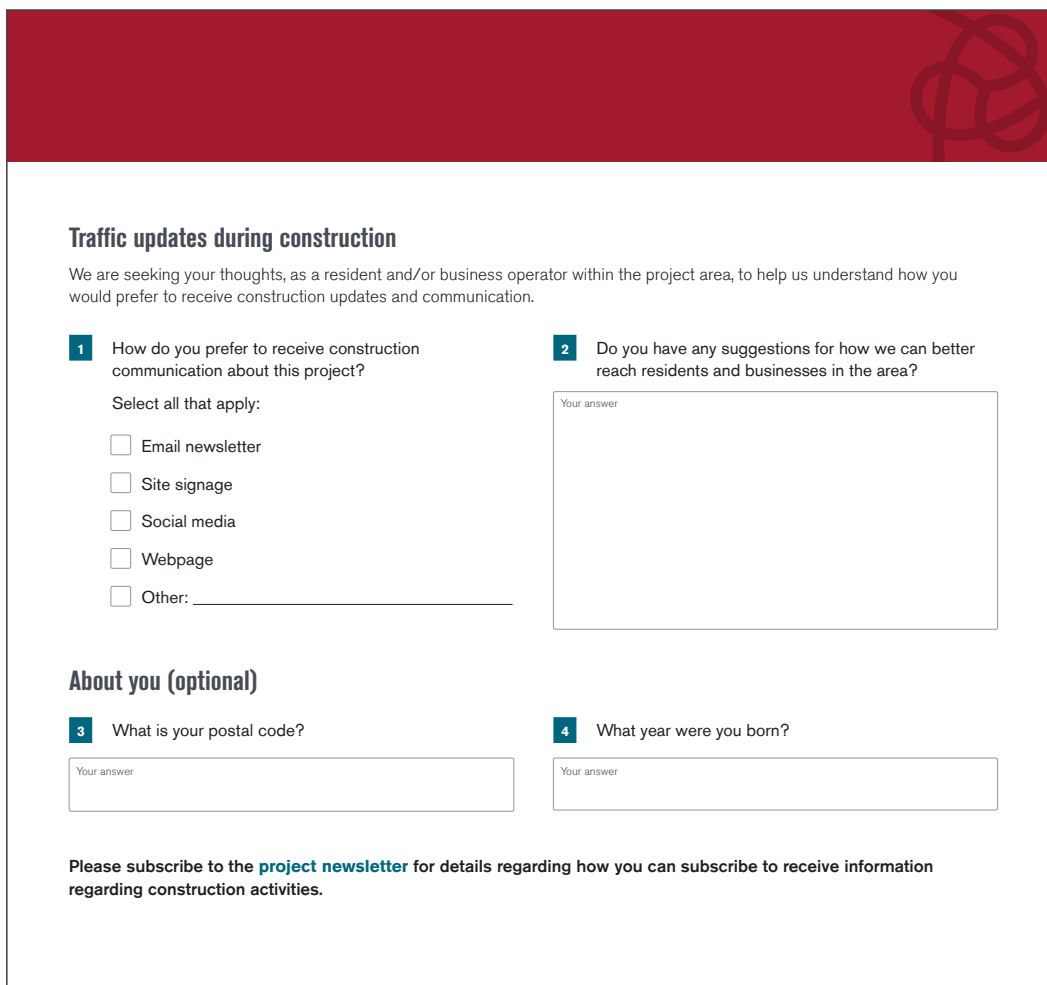
We conducted the following activities as part of the third phase of engagement for the Holdom Overpass Project.

Public open houses

The port authority hosted drop-in public open houses on August 24 and August 28, 2024, at the Christine Sinclair Community Centre to share the concept design of the Holdom Overpass Project, answer questions, and gather feedback. In total, 101 people attended these sessions. Representatives from the port authority, the City of Burnaby and CN were in attendance.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire was available online from August 12 to September 2, 2024 at portvancouver.com/holdomengagement and we had hard copies available at the open houses. The following pages present a summary of the feedback from the 176 responses to the questionnaire received.



Traffic updates during construction

We are seeking your thoughts, as a resident and/or business operator within the project area, to help us understand how you would prefer to receive construction updates and communication.

1 How do you prefer to receive construction communication about this project?

Select all that apply:

- Email newsletter
- Site signage
- Social media
- Webpage
- Other: _____

2 Do you have any suggestions for how we can better reach residents and businesses in the area?

Your answer

About you (optional)

3 What is your postal code?

Your answer

4 What year were you born?

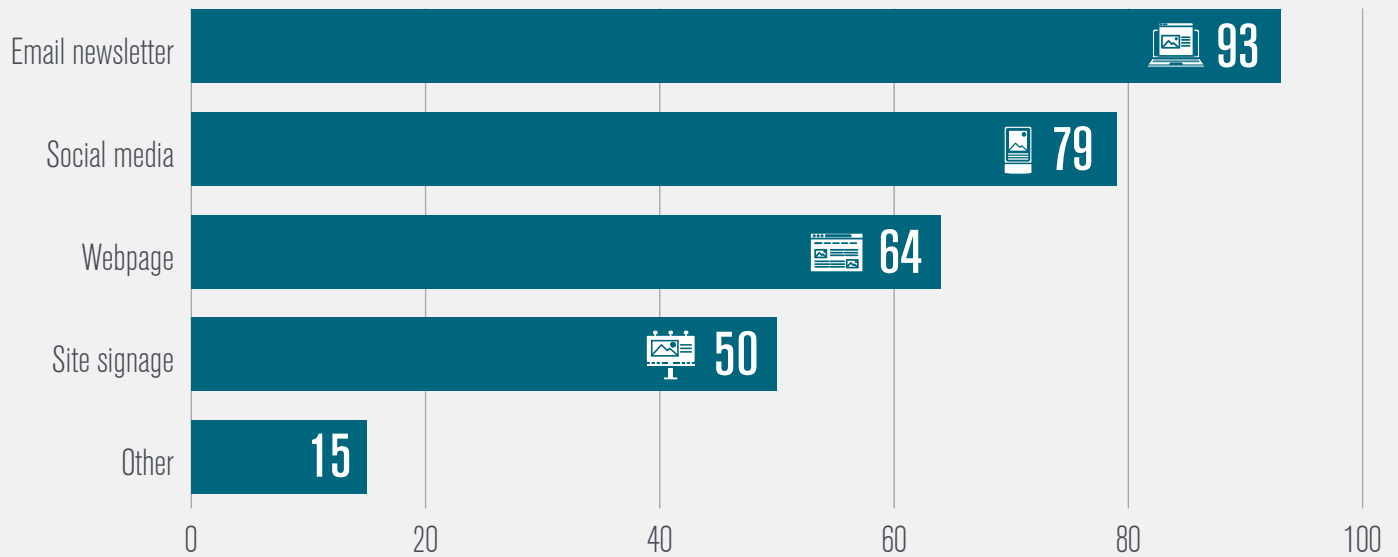
Your answer

Please subscribe to the [project newsletter](#) for details regarding how you can subscribe to receive information regarding construction activities.

Results

How do you prefer to receive construction communication about this project? Select all that apply:

One hundred and sixty-two participants answered this question.



Comments from those who selected “other” included

- Mailers to neighbouring residents and businesses
- Radio and/or newspaper ads
- Text message notifications





Do you have any suggestions for how we can better reach residents and businesses in the area?

Fifty-four participants answered this question. Comments below are grouped by themes mentioned.

Comments

- Prefer email notifications about the project
- Update the community with regular notices on the project webpage
- Suggest using a variety of platforms to ensure the project information can reach as many people as possible
- Suggestions for the Holdom Overpass Project team:
 - Share construction timelines with the community when they are available
 - Put signs on all corners of an intersection when there are traffic detours
- Consider producing a project video to highlight construction milestones
- Communicate with residents through property management companies or strata councils
- General support for the project, more interested in the project finally getting built than communications to the community
- Consider using social media ads for construction communication because they were effective for public engagement awareness
- Book newspaper ads to provide construction updates
- Suggest sending construction communications in the mail to neighbouring residents and businesses
- Consider using site signage to update the community on construction activities
- Consider in-person meetings, door-to-door engagement, or hosting regular open houses
- Hang up posters in public places around Burnaby, such as Brentwood Mall, businesses, community centres, and schools
- Have an online discussion forum and frequent online surveys about the project



Next steps

We continue to prepare for the start of the construction in December 2024 and are developing our communication plans and materials to keep the public informed as the project progresses.

To receive project updates and construction notifications, sign up for our newsletter at:

 portvancouver.com/holdomoverpass



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For questions regarding the project, please contact the team at
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portvancouver.com/holdomoverpass

Canada