



May 20, 2022

**Re: Update on the Centerm Expansion Project and South Shore Access Project - Extended work hours approved for the demolition of the Heatley Avenue overpass**

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is writing to notify you that we received approval to carry out activities outside of regular work hours for the demolition of the Heatley Avenue overpass between May and July 2022.

The demolition of the Heatley Avenue overpass is one of the final major activities underway as part of the [Centerm Expansion Project and South Shore Access Project](#). The demolition has been scheduled in phases, with phase one completed at the end of 2021, and phase two expected to be complete by September 2022.

This demolition will bring longer-term benefits for the community. Once the Heatley Avenue overpass is removed, there will no longer be any truck traffic coming over the overpass, which will reduce truck traffic on city streets, as trucks leaving the terminals on the south shore will use the new Centennial Road overpass to access Highway 1.

**Extended work hours**

We requested extended work hours outside of the port authority's regular Monday to Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. work hours to continue to carry out demolition activities associated with the removal of the Heatley Avenue overpass over the rail tracks.

The contractor will continue to demolish the Heatley Avenue overpass during port authority regular work hours, however work outside of these regular work hours is required to accommodate CN's and CP's train operations. Both CN and CP trains pass under the Heatley Avenue overpass and the demolition activities cannot take place while trains are moving through the corridor. Accordingly, the demolition of the overpass is also subject to approval by the railways because the activities required to complete the work could potentially impact the safe operations of the rail line.

**What to expect**

The demolition of the three bridge spans over the rail tracks would occur over approximately three weekends between 4:00 a.m. on Saturdays to 11:59 p.m. on Sundays to accommodate the closure of rail lines below the overpass. The three weekends of work will be spaced out over three consecutive months of May, June, and July 2022. The first weekend for demolition activities is May 28, 2022. Weekends in June and July are subject to approval by the railways.

On Saturday morning at 5:00 a.m., activities will include equipment mobilization, preparation, surveys, and setup. Heavy demolition would follow during daytime hours Saturdays, cleanup Saturday nights and Sundays, and contingency for repairs on Sundays, with return to service of the affected rail tracks by early Monday mornings. There will be no heavy demolition taking place at night.

**Construction activities include:**

- Equipment mobilization
- Site survey and condition assessment
- Site setup including placement of ballast and protection mats over rail lines Demolition of the overpass, including parapets, deck, girders, piers, and the foundation up to 2 metres below existing grade
- Cleanup of demolition debris and protection equipment/material
- Rail inspections and repairs, if required
- Activity related to this work, such as lane closures, fence repair, lighting, cleanup, vehicle and equipment movements

Activities will generate noise and localized lighting, and we recognize this is a disturbance to the surrounding community. To minimize impacts, the contractor will implement the following mitigation measures:

Mitigation measures for noise management include:

- Positioning stationary equipment and limiting unnecessary idling of vehicles and equipment whenever possible to minimize noise disturbance to the community
- Confirming machinery covers and equipment panels are well fitted and remain in place to muffle noise, and bolts and fasteners are tight to avoid rattling
- Properly maintaining all equipment to limit noise emissions, and fitting equipment with exhaust and muffler systems as needed
- Prohibiting the use of engine brakes in and around residential areas

Mitigation measures for light management include:

- Utilizing lighting only as needed to ensure the safety of crews during any nighttime work
- Lighting will be localized and directed onto the contractor's work area to minimize potential light impacts

### **Permit amendment review process**

As part of the port authority's project and environmental review process, we held a 30-day public comment period between February 14 and March 14, 2022, during which time the public was invited to provide feedback on the extended work hours request associated with the demolition of the Heatley Avenue overpass. Feedback received along with our responses, is available in the public engagement and consultation summary [report](#) for the permit amendment request for extended work hours for the Heatley Avenue overpass demolition.

In addition, as part of the port authority's project and environmental review process, we posted a notice on the Impact Assessment Agency website and held a 30-day public comment period from February 11 to March 12, 2022. During this time, the public was invited to provide feedback on the permit amendment request. We did not receive any feedback during that time.

### **Supporting the community**

The Centerm Community Fund was created to show appreciation to the community for their patience during construction of the terminal expansion and construction on the south shore. It was part of a larger \$2 million donation to community initiatives in East Vancouver from the port authority and the Centerm container terminals operator, DP World. The \$500,000 fund was distributed over three rounds of funding between 2019 and 2021. It supported 41 organizations that work to enrich the lives of the people who live and work in the area and support conservation efforts in their community.

### **About the project**

The Centerm Expansion Project and South Shore Access Project is a series of improvements to the Centerm container terminal and associated roadways to help meet anticipated near-term demand for container trade through the Port of Vancouver and reduce travel delays. The terminal footprint will be increased by approximately 15% and the aligned reconfiguration of the terminal will allow for us to achieve a 60% increase in throughput capacity when complete. Roadway upgrades include building the Centennial Road overpass over nearby rail tracks and extending Waterfront Road to connect it to Centennial Road. In July 2021 we completed the construction of the Centennial Road overpass, and it is now open to container truck traffic.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we complete this important project as safely and efficiently as possible.

If you have questions about this project, please feel free to contact the project team at [centerm.expansion@portvancouver.com](mailto:centerm.expansion@portvancouver.com) or by phone at 604.665.9563. For more information about these projects, visit [www.portvancouver.com/centerm-expansion](http://www.portvancouver.com/centerm-expansion).

Sincerely,  
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority