



December 14, 2020

**Re: Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project amendment request**

Dear resident,

The port authority is writing to notify you that the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project has submitted a request to conduct some construction activities outside of regular work hours.

As a Canada Port Authority, we have a mandate to ensure the Port of Vancouver is ready for Canada's growing trade. One of the ways we do this is by investing in and building essential infrastructure that connects consumers and businesses with the global marketplace, ensuring the supply of important and essential goods right across the country. As we respond to the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19, the port remains open for business, and we continue our work to deliver on critical trade-enabling projects such as the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project.

**About the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project**

This project is underway in coordination with Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail) to help increase the cargo capacity of port terminals on the south shore of Burrard Inlet in preparation for growth in Canadian trade. The project includes:

- Removing the old Columbia Containers grain silo (complete)
- Building new retaining walls
- Relocating and building new utilities
- Realigning Commissioner Street and adding traffic lanes near Columbia Containers to improve traffic flow
- Installing additional rail track (led by CP Rail) to increase rail capacity

These improvements will:

- Improve port truck movements and traffic flows
- Improve access to terminal facilities for commercial traffic
- Enable safe and efficient access to port lands for employees and service providers
- Provide land for rail track expansion, supporting trade growth and more local and national jobs

The project is funded by the port authority and the Government of Canada through the [National Trade Corridors Fund](#).

**Amendment request**

The request to conduct some construction activities outside of regular work hours requires an amendment to the project's construction permit. This request was submitted through the port authority's Project and Environmental Review process at the end of November. As part of the review process, we posted the notice of intent to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry on November 27, 2020.

**Why an amendment is needed**

The amendment to the project permit is required because construction of this project is in the same area as construction activities for the Centerm Expansion Project and South Shore Access Project. The area is narrow and complex, presenting a number of challenges for construction and users of port roads. To address these challenges, the project construction team needs to be able to work during extended hours and on Sundays.

**Construction activities**

If the permit amendment request is approved, night works will take place mainly in the eastern half of the project (along Commissioner Street, north of the CP Rail tracks, between Slocan Street and Renfrew Street). Other works that will take place include underground utility work, overhead and underground infrastructure installations, electrical work, retaining walls construction and placing asphalt pavement, as well as sanitary sewer relocation.

## What to expect

If the permit amendment request is approved, some construction will be done between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Mondays to Sundays from late January 2021 to July 2021, as needed. During this period, we expect the work will generate noise and some light from the project site, so we will implement noise and light reduction measures, including the following:

- Shrouding added to stationary equipment to contain the noise
- Activities that may result in more noise, such as excavation using a vacuum truck (hydrovac), to be done in the early hours of night shift (5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- Lights on construction site to face away from residences
- Silent pumps will be used during the bypass pumping for Metro Vancouver sanitary sewer relocation activities
- All noticeable noise (such as white noise back up beepers on equipment) will be well within 70 dB as per WorkSafeBC construction guidelines

## How to provide feedback on the proposed permit amendment

Feedback on the permit amendment request can be submitted directly to the port authority through our community feedback line ([community.feedback@portvancouver.com](mailto:community.feedback@portvancouver.com)) until January 6, 2021.

The public is also welcome to submit feedback through the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website (<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80856>) until December 26, 2020.

## Stay informed

Sign up for our new newsletter to be notified of project activities and updates: [portvancouver.com/commissioner](http://portvancouver.com/commissioner)

## Project map



We will continue to inform the community of project updates through mail drops, our website, and a new project newsletter.

Please send any questions you may have about the project to our project team at [community.feedback@portvancouver.com](mailto:community.feedback@portvancouver.com), or we encourage you to sign up for an email newsletter to receive updates on this project at [portvancouver.com/commissioner](http://portvancouver.com/commissioner).

Thank you for your patience while we complete this important work.

Sincerely,

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority