



February 15, 2021

**Re: Road works on Commissioner Street to begin as early as March 1, 2021**

The port authority is writing to notify you that construction on the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project will resume as early as March 1, 2021 and is expected to be complete by spring 2022.

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 (CP) to help improve 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) 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.

**Construction activities**

During construction, Commissioner Street from Renfrew Street to Nanaimo Street will be rebuilt to make room for CP to add additional tracks in its right of way. To complete this work, excavators and/or other equipment will be used to cut concrete, load materials into dump trucks for disposal, and install new concrete pavement. Utilities such as sanitary, storm, water, and electrical will be relocated and new utilities will be installed. Some trees will also be removed near the Columbia Containers' site, however, they will be replaced once construction is complete.

**What to expect**

Nearby residents and businesses can expect noise associated with construction activities, such as saw cutting, excavating, dumping material, concrete removal and grinding, and loading materials into trucks. During construction, residents and businesses can also expect some light impacts, however these may be less noticeable as the days get longer.

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority  
Road works on Commissioner Street will begin as early as March 1, 2021

**Amendment request under review**

In November 2020, the project submitted a request through the port authority’s Project and Environmental Review process to conduct some construction activities outside of regular work hours, between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Mondays to Sundays from March 1, 2021 to September 4, 2021, as 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.

As part of the review process, the port authority distributed notifications to the public on December 14, 2020, and held a public comment period between December 14, 2020 and January 6, 2021. A notice of intent was also posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry on November 27, 2020.

The request is currently under review and we will provide notification, including proposed mitigation measures, should this application be approved.

**Project map**



We are providing notification to the public through social media, website updates, and our project email 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 to receive project updates through our newsletter at [portvancouver.com/commissioner](http://portvancouver.com/commissioner).

Sincerely,

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority