



April 1, 2021

Re: Permit amendment update and construction schedule on the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project

Dear resident,

The port authority would like to notify you that construction hours for the Commissioner Street Road and Rail Realignment Project may be changing this month. As you may recall from our December 14, 2020 letter, we are awaiting approval to conduct some construction activities outside of regular work hours, from Mondays to Sundays between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Should these hours be approved, work would begin April 18, 2021 and continue until late June 2021.

About the project permit amendment

The request to conduct some construction activities outside of regular work hours requires an amendment to the project's construction permit. 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, with 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

Night works will take place mainly in the eastern half of the project area (along Commissioner Street, north of the CP tracks, between Slocan Street and Renfrew Street). Construction activities that will take place during the day include underground utility work, installing overhead and underground infrastructure, electrical work, constructing retaining walls and asphalt paving, as well as relocating sanitary sewer.

Attached is a tentative schedule with specific construction activities and work hours. Activities include general construction work, high-impact work during the day, and low-impact night work.

What to expect

Should the proposed hours be approved, some construction will be done between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Mondays to Sundays from April to June 2021, as needed. As much as possible, we will limit the nightshift and Sunday work. Please note that activities will generate noise and some light from the project site, but will not be continuous. To address these impacts, we will implement the following measures to reduce noise and light as much as possible:

- Conducting activities that may result in more noise, such as excavation using a vacuum truck (hydrovac), in the early hours of the night shift (5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- Shrouding stationary equipment to contain the noise
- Facing lights on construction site away from residences
- Using silent pumps during the bypass pumping for Metro Vancouver sanitary sewer relocation activities
- Ensuring all noticeable noise (such as white noise back up beepers on equipment) is well within 70 dBA as per WorkSafeBC construction guidelines

A new process has also been created to field project-related noise related inquiries and complaints. Please share any queries to csrr@portvancouver.com. To effectively monitor and respond to your queries, please submit the following information:

- Date and time of noise

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- Description of noisy activity
- If this noise is new or has been heard since the start of construction on the project
- Location of the source of the noise or where it is being heard from

Engagement activities as part of the amendment request

As part of the Project and Environmental Review process, the following engagement activities were undertaken as part of the amendment request:

- Presentations to the East Vancouver Port Lands committee and to the South Shore Community Liaison Committee
- Public comment period held between December 14, 2020 and January 6, 2021
- Notification letters to residents and businesses in the project area during the public comment period
- Notice posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry

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](#).

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Project

Project map



We are providing notification to the public through website updates and our project email newsletter.

We will update our website and send a newsletter once a decision is made on the proposed amendment request.

Please send any questions you may have about the project to our project team at csrr@portvancouver.com, or we encourage you to sign up to receive project updates through our newsletter at portvancouver.com/commissioner.

Sincerely,

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority