

## DVBIA Supports City Plan to Remove Downtown Viaducts

*October 14, 2015 VANCOUVER* In a unanimous decision by its Board of Directors, the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association (DVBIA) supports the City of Vancouver's staff recommendation to City Council to remove the Dunsmuir and Georgia Street viaducts.

More specifically, it supports the replacement of the Dunsmuir and Georgia viaducts with a new bi-directional, four-lane Georgia Street that would connect the eastern edge of the downtown to Pacific Boulevard. And, it supports the construction of a new active transportation bridge to facilitate the movement of pedestrians and cyclists from and to downtown along Dunsmuir Street.

Based on input from our membership and results of the City's planning, analysis and consultation, we believe replacement of the viaducts is the next evolution in making downtown more easily accessible by all modes of transportation, says Charles Gauthier, DVBIA President & CEO.

- The DVBIA believes that making downtown's edges more permeable is a transformative step in connecting the central business district with its surrounding neighbourhoods.
- It does not believe the estimated increase in travel times from one to three minutes will have a negative impact on accessing downtown by vehicle traffic.
- The association believes that this significant change in infrastructure will accelerate the City's 2040 Transportation Plan initiatives to increase mode share, in particular, for cycling and walking – important to a vibrant and healthy downtown.

### About the DVBIA

The DVBIA represents 8,000 property owners and tenants in the 90-blocks of the central business district and downtown south. Strategically, it supports access to downtown by all modes of transportation. It is in its 25<sup>th</sup> year of operation.

### Contact

Charles Gauthier  
President & CEO  
604-685-7811 (o)  
604-617-4565 (c)