

DVBIA Supports Temporary Modular Housing on Lot at 688 Cambie Street

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VANCOUVER, BC, JUNE 12, 2018— The Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association (DVBIA) has announced their support for the temporary modular housing proposal at 688 Cambie Street.

The DVBIA believes that supportive housing for homeless residents is needed in the City of Vancouver. We commend the Province of BC for providing funding, as well as the Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency, the City of Vancouver, and BC Housing for collaborating on forward-thinking solutions to the ongoing homelessness crisis.

“Temporary modular construction is a cost-effective, environmentally-friendly, safe, and efficient form of housing that is ideal for this site”, said DVBIA’S President and CEO, Charles Gauthier. “Moreover, the construction times for temporary modular housing are quicker than any other type of development. This is important as the need for housing is urgent.”

There are currently over 2,000 people experiencing homelessness in the City of Vancouver. This development will provide approximately 100 studio homes for single occupancy while more permanent housing is constructed throughout the city.

The reduction of homelessness is continuously identified as a top priority through the DVBIA’s surveys of the business community and the public at large. Almost 75 per cent of respondents in 2018 member survey felt that homelessness is on the rise in the downtown. The demand for more housing and shelters is abundantly clear.

“It’s great to have support from the downtown Vancouver business community for the City building almost 100 temporary modular homes at 688 Cambie Street,” said Mayor Gregor Robertson. “We’re getting close to our goal of 600 homes, and support from the Downtown Vancouver BIA along with other business and community organizations will help our efforts to bring people in off the street and into homes as quickly as possible.”

The DVBIA believes that affordable housing options should exist in all parts of the City; however they recognize that the most immediate need for housing is in and around the downtown core. The tenants of the modular housing at 688 Cambie would have customized health care and social service supports based on their needs. The central location of this site is in walkable proximity to a wide range of services that the tenants may require access to.

About the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association:

The Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association (DVBIA) supports, promotes and represents the shared interests of 8,000 businesses and property owners in the central 90-block

area of Vancouver's downtown core. For more information on the DVBIA, please visit www.downtownvancouver.net.

For more information on this release, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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