

December 9, 2019

Vancouver Park Board Commissioners
2099 Beach Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V6G 1Z4

Support for new park at Smithe and Richards

The new park at Smithe and Richards will fill a gap in Downtown Vancouver's public space network. The location is well suited for a park as it is surrounded by growing neighbourhoods where access to space for recreation, culture, and tranquility is increasingly important.

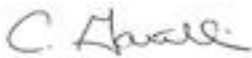
Through its thoughtful design the park will be an exciting, inclusive, and inviting place to spend time. Design elements include lighting, walkways, seating, café, public washrooms, greenery, and children's playground.

In 2015, the Downtown Vancouver BIA and SFU Public Square partnered on ReImagine Downtown Vancouver. This community consultation engaged with 11,000 participants and resulted in a future-oriented vision for the next 25 years of downtown. 43% of participants identified "great public spaces" as among one of two top attributes that they would like to see in the city core by 2040.

The Greenest City Action Plan also identified access to nature as a key priority, as it builds community and improves the health of residents.

The Downtown Vancouver BIA is pleased to support this park project.

Sincerely,



Charles Gauthier
President & CEO

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