

September 1, 2020

Mayor and Council  
City of Vancouver  
453 West 12th Ave  
Vancouver, BC  
V5Y 1V4

Cc: Dylan Passmore, Senior Transportation Design Engineer

**Downtown Vancouver BIA Supports Granville Bridge Connector**

Mayor and Council,

The Downtown Vancouver BIA (DVBIA) has been involved throughout the consultation process regarding the Granville Bridge Connector. We thank City Staff for the stakeholder engagement opportunities, including open houses, workshops, surveys, and a presentation to our Policy Advisory Council.

In October 2019 the DVBIA Board of Directors passed a motion to endorse the West Side Plus option for the Granville Bridge Connector. The improved cycling and pedestrian experience will benefit commuters, visitors, and businesses on both sides of the bridge. The Reimagine Downtown Vancouver public engagement summary from 2015, with input from 11,000 people, describes a future of Vancouver where "the bridges that link the downtown peninsula to the surrounding city have been transformed into multi-modal connectors, with safe, generous walking and cycling routes side by side with vehicle lanes". The Granville Connector project will achieve this vision expressed by the public.

While we look forward to full build-out of the Granville Connector plan, we understand that it will take longer than originally scheduled due to the City's current financial situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic response.

We appreciate the interim plans and phased approach that City Staff are proposing. We ask that the cycling and pedestrian related upgrades be prioritized and implemented as early in the process as possible.

Sincerely,



Charles Gauthier, MCP  
President & CEO

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