



To discuss today

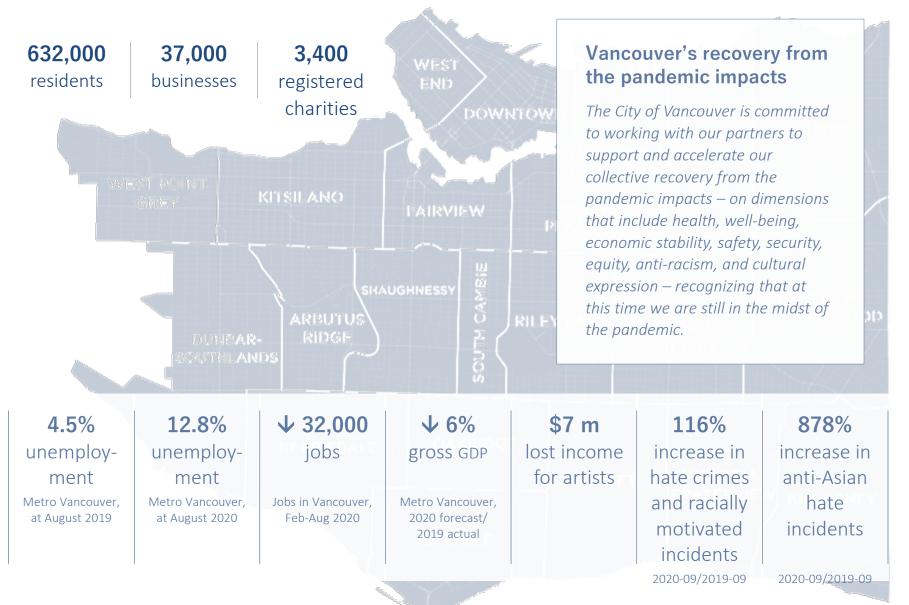
- 1. City of Vancouver Covid-19 response and recovery programs
- 2. Council Committee on Covid-19 Recovery
- 3. Key recovery initiatives implemented to date, overview
- 4. Next steps

Appendix: Key recovery initiatives implemented to date, details

1.

City of Vancouver Covid-19 response and recovery programs

Covid-19 in Vancouver



City of Vancouver Covid-19 response and recovery programs



Response

Emergency pandemic response



Recovery

Economic and community recovery



Restart

Reinitiating the City's operations



Rethink | Rebuild

City service efficiencies and effectiveness

CITY OF VANCOUVER COVID-19 RECOVERY PROGRAM

City of Vancouver Covid-19 response and recovery programs



Response

Emergency pandemic response



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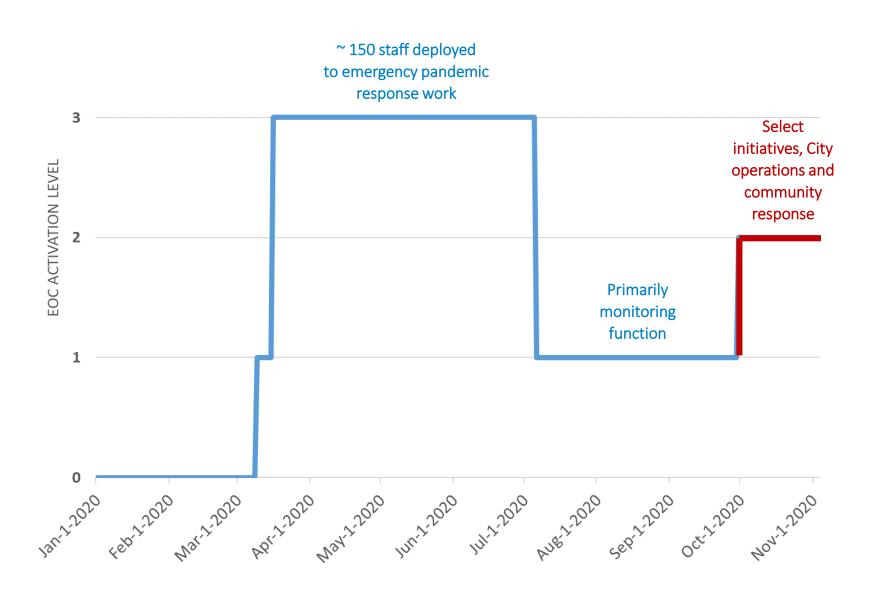


Rethink | Rebuild

City service efficiencies and effectiveness

CITY OF VANCOUVER COVID-19 RECOVERY PROGRAM

Significant Covid-related work still underway, Emergency Operations Centre



Covid emergency response continues to challenge our organisation

Winter and second + wave

- Continued very significant demand for City emergency response
- Continuation of verysignificant pandemic response workload

- → Continued increase in cases
- → Changing weather means increased impact on people experiencing homelessness
- → Need to prioritise limited City resources in the face of extensive community need
- → Ability to respond depends upon available funding, financial uncertainty affects ability to proactively pursue opportunities
- → Covid requirements putting additional pressures on non-profit agencies involved in community response, e.g., space needs, cleaning supplies, PPE
- → Demands on staff time to evaluate ongoing requests from health authorities
- → Constant pressure to fund/deliver services outside of City's mandate

City of Vancouver Covid-19 response and recovery programs



Response

Emergency pandemic response



Recovery

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CITY OF VANCOUVER COVID-19 RECOVERY PROGRAM



How the City is supporting economic and business recovery

1. Existing progra and services

Libraries, community ce public safety, social/cultur

New recovery initi implemented (~

Temporary Expedited Patio Making Streets for People

How to choose?

- 1. Alignment with Council priorities
- 2. Anticipated outcomes/ impacts
- 3. Resourcing capabilities (funding, staff)
- 4. Alignment with existing programs and services
- Alignment with municipal mandate

2. ing work pivoted ward recovery

it processing, rezoning digital uses, the Vancouver Plan

4. recovery initiative didates (~ 120)

-tbd-

City of Vancouver Covid-19 Recovery Program key assumptions

- 1. The City must work with partners on community recovery. Working closely with key partners such as Vancouver Coastal Health, BC Housing, the Vancouver School Board, local non-profit agencies, local First Nations and various senior government agencies, the City of Vancouver has a role to play in supporting our local community recovery.
- 2. The City has limited power to substantially directly influence the local economy. City of Vancouver has limited ability to directly influence the local economy through Covid-19 recovery, but in is a position to support a speedier recovery through strategic efforts.
- 3. This is an opportunity to make it easier to do business in Vancouver. One of the principal ways the City can support local business by making it easier to do business in Vancouver, through our regulations, services, policies and processes.
- **4.** The City has an important advocacy role. City of Vancouver leadership can influence and support economic recovery planning efforts of industry, other levels of government and regional peers through convening others and targeted advocacy.



Report of the Council COVID Recovery Committee

Committee of the Whole:

Mayor Kennedy Stewart
Councillor Rebecca Bligh
Councillor Christine Boyle
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Melissa De Genova
Councillor Lisa Dominato
Councillor Pete Fry
Councillor Colleen Hardwick
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung
Councillor Jean Swanson
Councillor Michael Wiebe





Covid-19

Economic and Community Recovery

Advisory Committee Council of Councils

30-Sep-2020





Shape Your City

General and Covid-specific questions



Covid engagement survey and two pulse surveys



2.

City of Vancouver's Council Committee on Covid-19 Recovery

Report of the Council COVID Recovery Committee

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Councillor Jean Swanson
Councillor Michael Wiebe

Submitted to:
Sadhu Johnston, City Manager, City of Vancouver Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager, City of Vancouver July 31, 2020

Council Covid Recovery Committee

- Initiated via Council motion, May 2020
- Committee of the whole of Council
- Presentations by ~ 25 experts and stakeholders on a selected set of recovery-related themes from May-July 2020
- Approximately 150 speakers' recommendations, 40 identified as top-priority by the CCRC

Council Covid-19 Recovery Committee, themes



1. Economic recovery forecasts



2.
Economic recovery and complete communities



3.

Municipal
government
roles and
responsibilities



4. Housing and homelessness



5. Climate emergency

A. Incorporate now

- 1. Incorporate priority
 recommendations
 immediately. Immediately
 upon receipt of the CCRC
 Report, incorporate the
 top-priority recommendations into the City's
 Covid-19 Recovery
 Program and other
 workstreams as
 appropriate
- 2. Consider priority
 recommendations in 2021
 budget. Give consideration to the 41 top-priority
 recommendations in the
 CCRC report in the City's
 2021 Operating Budget

B. Report back to Council in January 2021

- **1. Evaluate/integrate.** Evaluate and as appropriate integrate CCRC findings and recommendations
- 2. Further questions. Pursue answers to questions the CCRC was not able to answer during its mandate
 - How can the city's recovery plans increase resiliency city-wide?
 - How can we advance goals of service excellence?
 - What practices has the City adopted as a result of the pandemic should we consider continuing?
- 3. Opportunities for Council to identify/hear from experts. Options to create more opportunities for Council to identify/hear directly from experts and organizations as part of Council presentations

3.

Key recovery initiatives implemented to date, overview

The City has invested

\$13 million

in Covid-19 response since March 2020

The City has invested

\$21 million

in Covid-19 community/economic recovery since March 2020

Response

Actions to address acute issues, risks and immediate impacts of Covid-19

Recovery

Actions supporting
and/or accelerating local
business and community
recovery, to regain/
rebuild what has been
lost or disrupted by
Covid-19

Core municipal services Core municipal programs and services supporting recovery Advocacy, Safe Restart funding Advocacy, federal support for Canada's large cities Advocacy, provincial support for Canada's large cities • Preparing for senior government stimulus funding Affordability and the housing crisis Affordable housing initiatives

Protect and build a resilient local economy Business support and liaison Property tax due date extension Rent Assistance Program Electronic permit processing and inspections Digital public hearings Temporary Expedited Patio Program • Temporary liquor licensing pre-approvals Making Streets for People Program Community safety and street disorder Cultural grants • Open With Care campaign Advocacy: Digital Main Street, ShopHERE and Bring Back Main Street Advocacy: An expanded Provincial property tax deferment program Advocacy: Split commercial property assessment

Equity and critical social issues Social grants and childcare Alcohol Consumption Pilot Project Bus-priority measures • Support for people disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 Indigenous peoples and recovery

Action on climate change

through the recovery

Supporting women

 City's climate emergency action plan Covid-19 intersects

Report of the Council COVID Re

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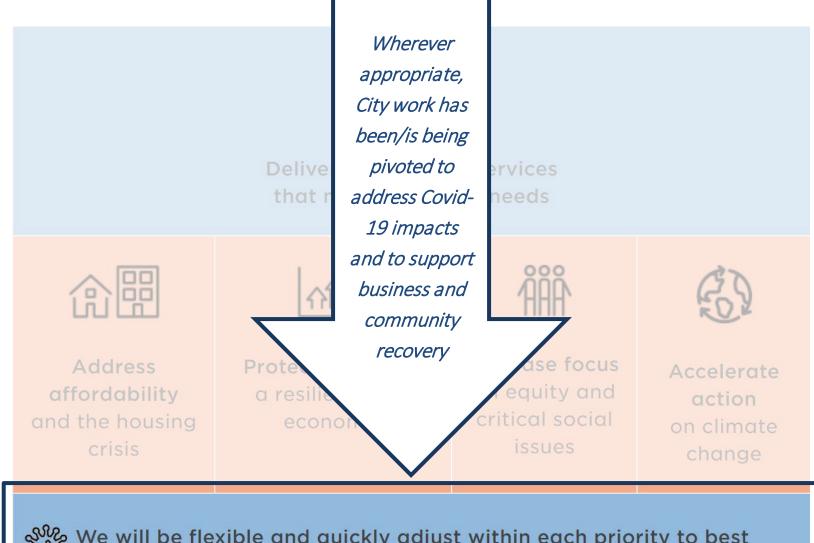
Submitted to:
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~ 90%

of City's recovery initiatives implemented to date are aligned with CCRC presenters' recommendations



4. Next steps

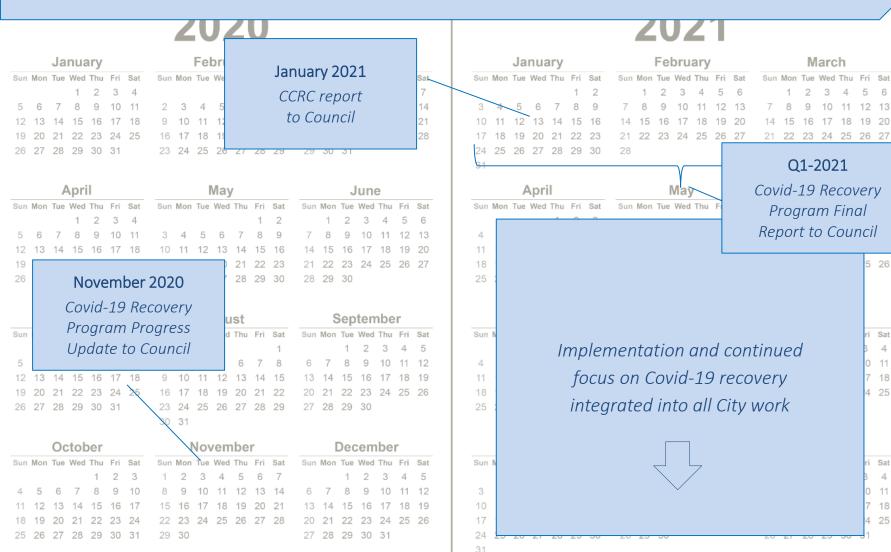




We will be flexible and quickly adjust within each priority to best support recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

Recovery Program next steps

Various Covid-19 Recovery Program workstream reports and one-off recovery initiatives to Council



#MovingVancouverFwd

Appendix
Key recovery initiatives
implemented to date, details

Economic and Community Recovery Program, seven workstreams

A.
Business
Recovery

Karen Levitt,
Deputy City Manager

B.
Community
Recovery /The
Vancouver Plan

Gil Kelley, GM, PDS • **Susan Haid**, Deputy Director, PDS

C.

Non-Profit & Social Enterprise Recovery Support

Sandra Singh,
GM, ACCS · Branislav
Henselmann, Director,
Cultural Services

D.

Disproportionately
Impacted
Populations
Recovery Support

Sandra Singh,
GM, ACCS · Mary Clare
Zak, Director, Social
Policy and Projects

INDIGENOUS RECOVERY

E.

Development & Permit Process Improvements

Gil Kelley, GM, PDS & Jessie Adcock, GM,
DBL

F.

Senior Government Advocacy

Tobin Postma, Director, Intergovernmental Relations G.

Stimulus-Funded Projects

Patrice Impey, GM, FRS
· Grace Cheng,
Director, LT Financial
Strategy

Some overlap
among
workstreams,
coordinated and
aligned via
central Leads
Forum

City Council priorities



Deliver quality core services that meet residents' needs



Address affordability and the housing crisis



Protect and build a resilient local economy



on equity and critical social issues



Accelerate action on climate change



We will be flexible and quickly adjust within each priority to best support recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

COUNCIL PRIORITY



Deliver quality core services that meet residents' needs



Canada



Advocacy, Safe Restart funding

- Federal and provincial governments to contribute \$540 million to support BC local governments' Covid-19 restart/recovery
 - \$425 million: Support restart and mitigate Covid-19 financial and operating impacts
 - \$100 million: Strengthening communities
 - \$15 million: Development approval process improvements
- Combined efforts of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Big City Mayors' Caucus, and finance and intergovernmental relations staff

CCRC

City of Vancouver allocation tbd



Advocacy, federal support for Canada's large cities

- Seeking enhanced ongoing federal support for large urban cities
- Municipal finance reform to better align funding sources and mandate
- Parallel/aligned political and staff efforts
- City Manager collaboration forum for Canada's six largest cities – Big City Executive Partnership





Advocacy, provincial support for Canada's large cities

- BC Urban Mayors' Caucus 2020 Blueprint for British Columbia's Urban Future
 - Mental Health, Substance Use and Addictions
 - Affordable Housing
 - **Public Transit**
 - A New Fiscal Framework
- Seeking a minimum \$1 billion annual unconditional funding from Province for capital infrastructure

CCRC



COUNCIL PRIORITY



Address
affordability
and the housing
crisis



Affordable Housing

- \$30 million allocated to Emergency Covid-19 relief for unsheltered Vancouver residents in October 2010
- Expediting regulatory processing for affordable housing
- April 2020 Covid19 Housing Response and Recovery Plan – immediate recovery actions and longer-term recalibration of our housing system
 - Replacement of DTES SROs to self-contained social housing, scaling up production of nonmarket housing, encouraging private developers to provide housing aligned to local incomes, enhancing rental housing, preventing speculation
 - Opportunity to access the \$1 billion federal Rapid Housing Initiative, the second stream of Reaching Home Program funding

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COUNCIL PRIORITY



Protect and build a resilient local economy THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back on the feasibility of a permanent Business Communications and Support Portal with the goal of a one stop shop for local business owners, local non-profits, social

enterprises, and self-employed individuals including artists in Va

- Consolidates and streamlines different city services; Becomes a one stop online platform for all licenses
- associated with a business address, including but n planning, engineering, fire, police, and waste mana Supports a concierge system that allows business
- point of contact when working with the city; iii)
- Is more flexible, especially with respect to emergin Will align with the support work of the "Business Li iv)
- Project"; and
- Provides options for a scaled business licence sys incentives for business that meet our city priorities vi)

FURTHER THAT staff report back on the feasibility of an em registry to identify the availability of retail spaces and look at incentivize the use of these spaces for popups, art and cultu enterprises and business incubators;

FURTHER THAT staff consider and report back on establis Business Advisory Taskforce, to build on the Mayor's small tables and identify the needs of the broader business com

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to work with the Commission and other business associations to expand T business network of support services.

Business support and liaison

- **Business Communication and** Support portal established April 2020, single point of contact for business support and feedback to the City
- To mid-October, over 10,800 business inquiries to 311, website accessed over 2,000 times
- June 2020 Council motion to advance business support and liaison, including one-stop portal for City transactions, and a business advisory taskforce







Electronic permit processing and inspections

- Evaluating which of the Covid-19 permit intake improvements to permanently incorporate into business model
- Virtual meetings and document review, electronic payments, virtual design staff review meeting decisions
- Virtual Urban Design Panel and Development Permit Board meetings
- Thirty-three virtual open houses for rezoning applications to date, ~ 14,300 visits – three-week period for public to ask questions, response within two business days, replacing a single three-hour inperson event
- Expanded construction hours, case by case decisions via GM, DBL

Vancouver City Council to consider virtual public hearings for rezoning applications



Kenneth Chan | Apr 2 2020, 10:25 am



May 2019 artistic rendering for 2538 Birch Street (formerly 1296 West Broadway) in Vancouver. (IBI Group/Jameson

Can public hearings in Vancouver City Council for rezoning applications still be conducted within the foreseeable future? Attracting public speakers and delegations to council chambers is currently a tough proposition due to COVID-19.

Digital public hearings

Online digital public hearings for rezoning applications





Temporary Expedited Patio Program

- For restaurants and cafes
- Original program ended November 2020, extended to October 2021
- Fees and permits waived,
 straightforward permits issued in
 2-5 business days
- Changed Zoning Bylaw to allow breweries, wineries and distilleries to operate outdoors
- 415 temporary patio permits issued to end-September 2020 – 336 on public property, 79 on private property

COVID-19: B.C. hospitality sector to get fast-tracked liquor licences for expanded patios

The fast-tracking of liquor licensing was applauded by the struggling hospitality industry, which normally employs 190,000 workers, which all of whom were laid off because of the COVID-19 lockdown.

Susan Lazaruk May 22, 2020 • Last Updated 3 months ago • 2 minute read



Patio dining, seen here in Vancouver in 2019, will look very different in B.C 2020. PHOTO BY GERRY KAHRMANN /PNG

Temporary liquor licensing preapprovals

- Blanket pre-approval for eligible temporary liquor service area expansions, streamlined process
- Originally to end-October 2020, extended to end-October 2021
- Aligned Fire Bylaw occupancy calculations with BC Fire Code, allowing higher occupancy in some cases



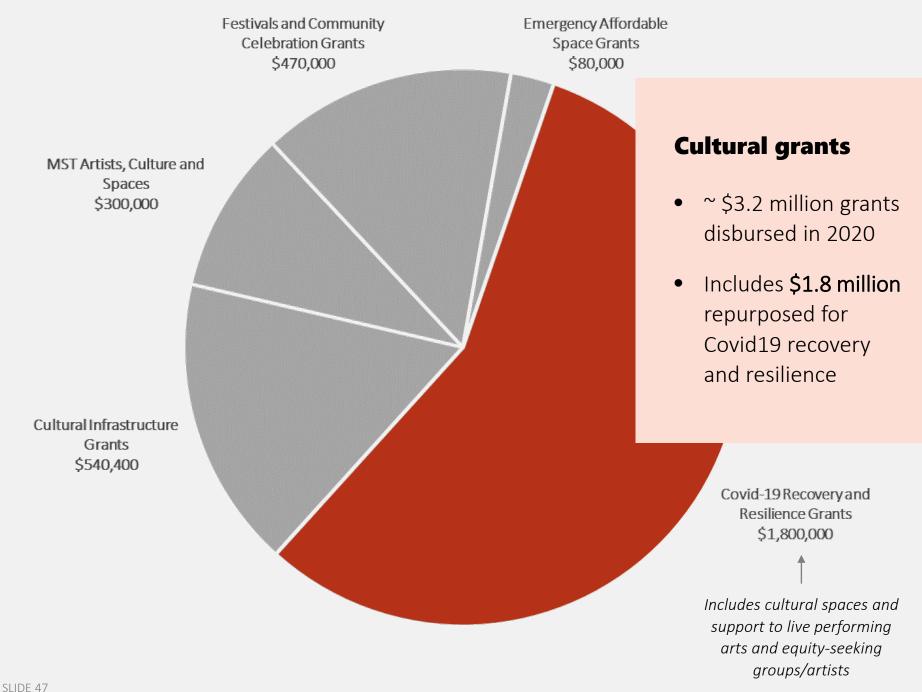
Making Streets for People Program

- Room to Move Space for business customers, pedestrians and bus passengers (Beach Avenue, Granville Street)
- Room to Load Space for short term loading near businesses
- Room to Queue Space for lineups outside businesses and agencies (17 in place)
- Slow Streets Over 40 km of roads to give people more space to exercise/hang out
- Repurposed street space To allow more walking, rolling and cycling, e.g., Beach Avenue, 11 + 3 upcoming pop-up plazas (including linear plazas on Robson Street), various parklets and extended sidewalks



Community safety and street disorder

- Supporting increased security presence in Chinatown in response to rising racism, violence and graffiti
- Reallocation of sanitation resources to address increasing response to unsheltered homelessness and related issues – increased homelessness services outreach, garbage and litter collection, lane flushing, micro-cleaning, power-washing pilot, focused in Downtown South
- Deploying park ambassadors in high-traffic parks
- Hosted seven multi-lingual town halls to facilitate dialogue on community issues/concerns/Covid-19 response
- Anti-Racism Action Plan and Washroom Strategy are both near-term workplan priorities
- Vancouver Coastal Health has increased Spikes on Bikes needle pickup service



OPEN WITH CAPR



BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS OF BC

Open With Care campaign

- Provided design and translation services to the Business Associations of BC Open With Care campaign, encouraging Vancouverites to shop local as businesses reopened, with customer/staff safety top of mind
- Posters, buttons, and floor decals among materials translated into Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Punjabi, Tagalog, and Vietnamese
- Promoted on City website
- Materials available online to download







Advocacy: An expanded Provincial property tax deferment program

 Advocating to expand the provincial property tax deferment program to include all residential, commercial and non-profit agencies that need it





COUNCIL PRIORITY



on equity and critical social issues



Social grants and childcare

- \$1.3 million social service grants to be disbursed in 2020, an incremental \$580,000 to be considered by Council in November 2020
- \$0.5 million Childcare Rapid Response grants disbursed July 2020, an incremental \$250,000 to be considered by Council in November 2020
 - For both grant streams, focus on communities disproportionately impacted by Covid19, including urban Indigenous people, the Black community and sex workers
- Three new childcare facilities coming online – 162 new spaces for under five year olds, two opening in 2022



Support for people disproportionately impacted by Covid19

- Increased homelessness outreach to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness – income, housing and supports
- Funded three washroom trailers operated by partners
- Working with Vancouver Coastal Health to implement interventions to mitigate re-escalating opioid crisis
- Translating select City materials into five languages and into plain language, outreach to non-English speakers
- Working with social enterprises to provide low-barrier employment opportunities

- Implementing Equity Decision-Making Tool across organization
- Working with BC Housing to open additional temporary shelters and permanent housing options



Bus-priority measures

- In partnership with Translink, piloting measures to address bus delays – Granville Street, Robson Street, Main Street and Kingsway, and 49th Avenue
 - Extending sidewalks/curbs at bus stops to reduce the need for buses to merge in and out of traffic
 - Changes at intersections to reduce delays to buses and other vehicles
 - New bus lanes to give priority to buses over regular traffic, parking and curbside access



Indigenous peoples and recovery

- Begin to work with the Urban Indigenous People's Advisory Committee to prioritise City's response to their report, Centering Community in the City's COVID-19 Response
- In partnership with Vancouver Coastal
 Health Authority and the First Nations
 Health Authority, supported the Metro
 Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council
 (MVAEC) to create the Urban Indigenous
 Pandemic Response Hub to facilitate public
 health/Covid-19 information dissemination
 and to help keep urban Indigenous
 community connected
- Secured a permanent location for an Indigenous healing/wellness/cultural space

CCRC

 Supporting MVAEC in developing Urban Indigenous Covid-19 communications strategy



Supporting women through the recovery

- In collaboration with Indigenous communities, advancing Women's Legacy Project – proposed housing and community space that prioritizes Indigenous women and families
- Developing Sex Worker Safety Plan, to provide access to safe space, washrooms, employment and training initiatives
- Advancing UN Safe Cities for Women and Girls Scoping Study, to better understand and respond to gender-based violence in Vancouver and implement initiatives across the City
- In 2020, allocating 23% of all social grants (\$1 million) to programs primarily serving women, plus \$2.5 million childcare grants



COUNCIL PRIORITY



Accelerate action on climate change



End