



## REPORT

Report Date: June 22, 2021  
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Meeting Date: July 6, 2021  
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services  
SUBJECT: Additional Sites for 2021 Alcohol Consumption in Public Plazas Pilot

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council approve, in principle, amendments to the City Land Regulation By-law No. 8735 to designate certain public places over which the City has jurisdiction as places where liquor may be consumed;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward for enactment by Council a By-law to amend the City Land Regulation By-law to designate these places, generally as set out in Appendix A.

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

This report outlines three additional pop-up plaza locations recommended for inclusion in the 2021 Alcohol Consumption in Public Plazas Pilot. Building on the initial pilot in 2020, this year's pilot began with three sites, which opened May 31 and will run until October 11, 2021. Adding new sites to the pilot will allow staff to test new locations, partnerships and management models, while continuing to collect data to inform long-range public space policy and projects.

### **COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

**May 18, 2021:** Council approved, in principle, amendments to the City Land Regulation By-law No. 8735 to allow a pilot for liquor consumption in three public plazas from May 31 to October 11, 2021, and to extend the Drinker's Lounge pilot to 7 days a week until December 31, 2021, and instructed staff to bring the by-law forward for enactment.

**March 30, 2021:** Council directed staff to revisit the 2020 alcohol consumption pilot to consider timely reactivation of last summer’s pilot plazas, and add any new locations that might equitably support local food and drink services that cannot otherwise provide patio spaces, as well as safe social gathering for Vancouverites.

**February 24, 2021:** Council approved, in principle, amendments to the City Land Regulation By-law No. 8735 to allow a pilot for liquor consumption at a proposed parklet at 111 Princess (Drinker’s Lounge”) from March 1 to July 31, 2021, and instructed staff to bring the by-law forward for enactment. Council also approved a Social Policy grant totalling \$25,000 to the PHS Community Services Society to support the pilot, and directed staff to report back in Q2 2021 on the implementation and considerations for extension.

**July 29, 2020:** Council approved, in principle, amendments to the City Land Regulation By-law No. 8735 to allow a pilot for liquor consumption in four public plazas, and instructed staff to bring the by-law forward for enactment. Staff were also directed to report back in Q2 2021 on the feasibility of enabling licensed restaurants to allow patrons to consume an alcoholic beverage while waiting for a table adjacent to the food establishment.

**June 23, 2020:** Council directed staff to prepare a by-law pursuant to Section 73 subsections (2), (3) and (4) of the Liquor Control and Licensing Act, to allow a pilot for liquor consumption in select public places under jurisdiction of the City. Staff were directed to create limited spaces for responsible consumption of alcohol in public, and to consult with VPD, VCH, internal stakeholders, local Business Improvement Associations and businesses, to recommend appropriate locations and hours for consumption of alcohol in specified public spaces.

### ***CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS***

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

### ***REPORT***

#### ***Background/Context***

##### 2021 Alcohol Consumption in Public Plazas Pilot

On May 18, 2021, Council approved the 2021 Alcohol Consumption in Public Plazas Pilot and three initial locations (800 Robson, Cambie & 17th Temporary Pop-Up Plaza, and Fraser & 27th Temporary Pop-Up Plaza). The pilot sites were launched on May 31, 2021 and are expected to run until October 11, 2021.

##### Additional Proposed 2021 Plaza Pilot Locations

Following Council approval of the pilot program, staff continued to explore additional locations proposed by plaza partners via an ‘Expression of Interest’ process. The ability to secure public access to washrooms was again a critical criterion of site viability.

Additional recommended sites:

- Granville & 13th Temporary Pop-Up Plaza – *new site*  
Location: West block of W 13th Ave. at Granville St.  
Partner: South Granville Business Improvement Association (SGBIA) – *new partner*  
Washroom access: Granville Park Public Washroom (350 metres away)
- Granville & 14th Temporary Pop-Up Plaza – *new site*  
Location: East block of W 14th Ave. at Granville St.  
Partner: South Granville Business Improvement Association (SGBIA) – *new partner*  
Washroom access: Granville Park Public Washroom (260 metres away)
- 4th & Maple Temporary Pop-Up Plaza – *new site*  
Location: South block of Maple St. at W 4th Ave.  
Partner: Kitsilano West 4th Avenue Business Improvement Association – *new partner*  
Washroom access: on-site temporary portable washroom

See draft by-law in Appendix A for maps of locations and specific designated areas at each proposed plaza. These pilot sites are proposed to run from July 15 to October 11, 2021.

### ***Public Input***

Should the additional pilot sites be supported by Council, staff and partners will work together to inform local businesses and residents of the project, including avenues by which they may provide feedback. To gather broader public feedback, an online survey will be available on City webpages and communicated via on-site signage. The input gathered will inform day-to-day management of pilot sites, as well as longer term public space policy development.

### ***Financial***

City costs for implementation of needed infrastructure such as washroom management, site signage, waste management, monitoring and data collection / analysis (3-1-1, observational scans), and other site specific needs will be managed within existing Engineering budgets. While exact costs are dependent on specific locations; each location is estimated to cost up to approximately \$5,000 (excluding staff time) for the duration of the pilot. Costs will be tracked and inform a future report back to Council.

### ***Legal***

Section 73 of the Liquor Control and Licensing Act (BC) gives the City the authority to designate, by by-law, public places as places where liquor may be consumed, subject to certain requirements as set out in the Act and the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation.

**CONCLUSION**

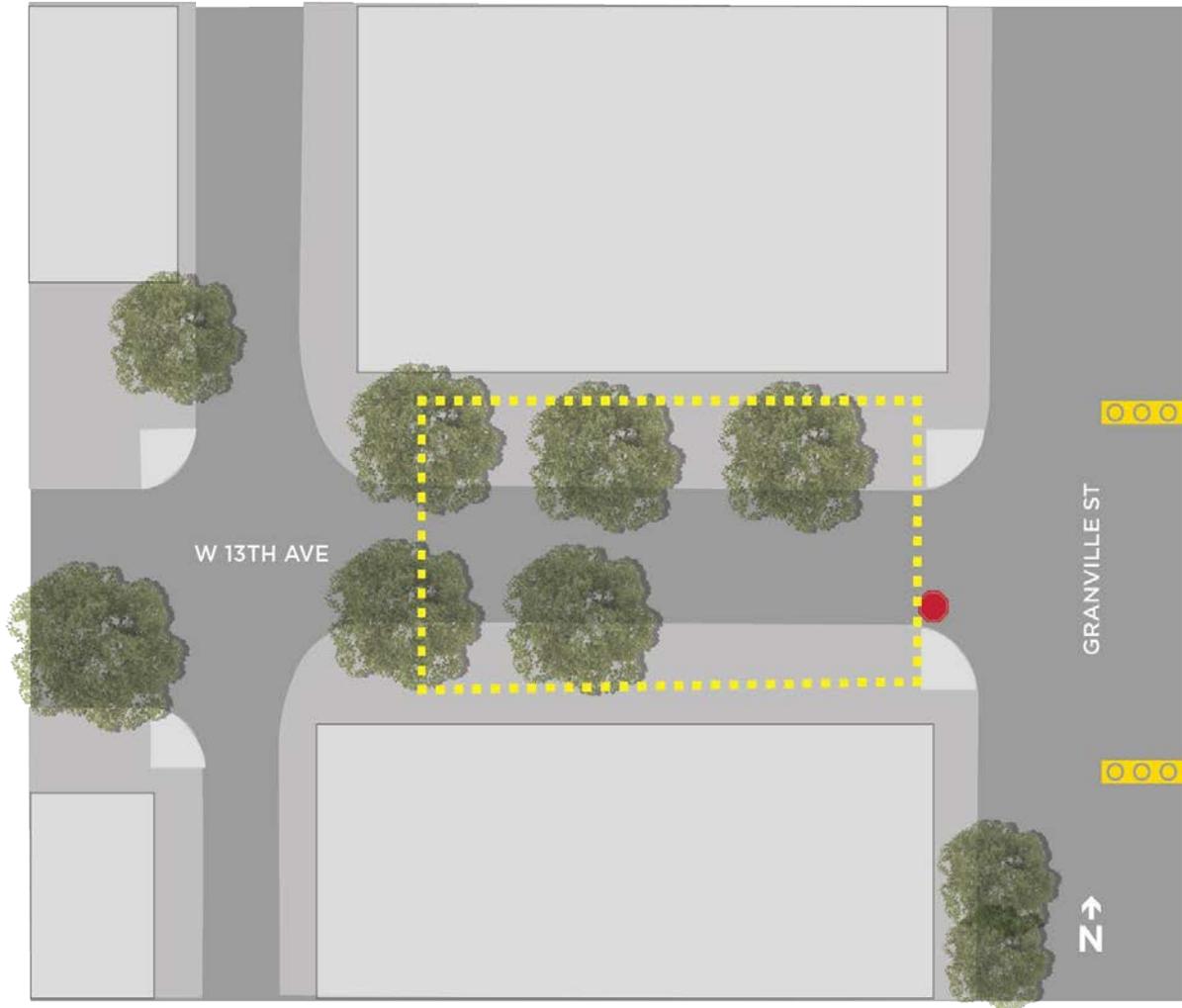
Through the implementation of these recommendations, the City will temporarily allow public drinking in additional designated sites to reflect current Council priorities to support businesses and residents in the COVID-recovery period. Adding new sites to the pilot is also an opportunity to enhance learning and inform longer-term public space policy development.

\* \* \* \* \*

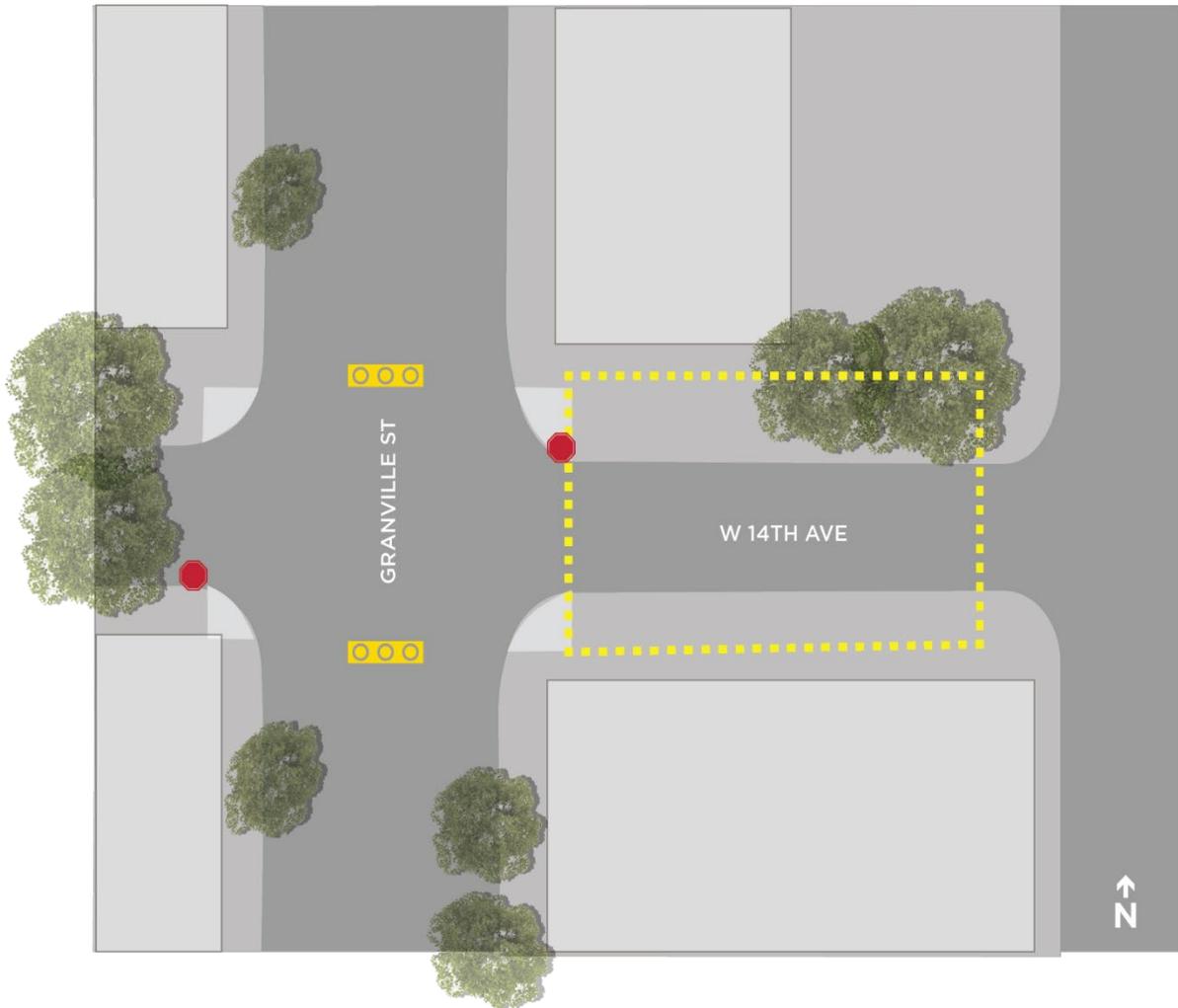


Appendix A

Designated area 5



Designated area 6



Designated area 7

