

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

For consideration at the Standing Committee meeting of City Council on February 26, 2025.

2. Bringing Back The Block Party: Supporting Davie Village and Vancouver Pride Celebrations

Submitted by: Councillor Meiszner

WHEREAS

1. Davie Village is widely considered to be the heart of Metro Vancouver's 2SLGBTQIA+ community and is known nationwide as an inclusive, vibrant and caring neighbourhood of residents, shops, and services;
2. The community is the centre of the Vancouver Pride Parade, which started in 1978 as a protest march, ahead of the city's first officially permitted parade in 1981;
3. The Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival is one of the city's most highly anticipated events, attracting over 100,000 attendees, and generating millions in economic impact;
4. The *Davie Street Promenade (previously Davie Street Block Party)* was regularly held by the Vancouver Pride Society for many years in the village, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; It was last hosted in 2019.
5. It included a full street closure of Davie Street from Burrard Street to Jervis Street for Pride weekend, and featured performance stages supporting a diversity of talent from the queer community, local community merchants, entertainment, licensed areas for alcohol consumption, and more;
6. A group of leading community organizations including the Vancouver Pride Society, Qmunity, West End BIA and local small businesses have formed a working group to return the *Davie Street Block Party* to the West End in 2025 on Pride weekend; and
7. The working group is seeking city and council support to bring back the *Davie Street Block Party* in 2025, with proceeds going to the Vancouver Pride Society and Qmunity, to support their vital initiatives and work in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council direct staff to seek to work with the West End BIA, Vancouver Pride Society and Qmunity, as well as relevant stakeholders such as TransLink and the Vancouver Police, to initiate a full street closure of Davie Street from Burrard to Jervis Streets on Saturday and Sunday of Pride weekend in 2025, to host the *Davie Street Block Party*, with the intention to continue the street closure for Pride weekend in 2026 if successful, and report back to council on discussions with stakeholders by end of Q1 2025.

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