

Mayor and Council  
453 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC



June 26, 2013

Dear Mayor and Council:

**Re: Viaducts Planning – Planning, Transportation and Environment Committee meeting, June 26, 2013**

The Vancouver Chinatown Revitalization Committee (VCRC) would like to express its strong support in principle for proceeding with the planning and analysis on the removal of the Georgia and Dunsmuir Viaducts.

The VCRC would first like to echo the comments from the other Community groups to stress that the first job is to make sure that the replacement transportation infrastructure will provide adequate capacity for a growing city.

The VCRC joins the call from other Community groups for a truly participatory planning process for the transportation, public amenities and land use decisions that will precede the dismantling of the Viaducts.

The VCRC would also like to look ahead. If the traffic issues can be resolved or managed, then the VCRC believes that the removal of the Viaducts is a huge opportunity to heal the scars on the historic Chinatown from a failed urban renewal project of another era.

The east Viaduct ramps take up two city blocks bounded by Quebec, Gore, Prior and Union. The construction of the Viaducts displaced an eclectic mix of warehouses, small storefronts with residential above, single family homes and rooming houses. These buildings and uses made an easy and logical transition from Chinatown core and the other neighbourhoods. These blocks were sort of the suburbs Chinatown.

The VCRC looks forward to the re-instatement of housing and commercial uses to these blocks to make this part of Main Street whole again.

The VCRC also looks forward to the allocation of at least some of the social housing component of these 2 blocks to provide assisted and low cost housing for Chinese seniors and families.

Yours truly,

Henry Tom,  
Chair, Vancouver Chinatown Revitalization Committee

Vancouver Chinatown Revitalization Committee, 118 Keefer Street, V6A 1X4