

# **REPORT**

## **Climate Action, Planning and Development**

**To:** Mayor Cote and Members of Council      **Date:** August 29, 2022

**From:** Emilie K. Adin,  
Director, Climate Action, Planning and  
Development      **File:** 05.1020.20

**Item #:** 2022-570

**Subject:** **Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request – New Westminster  
Interceptor – Columbia Sewer Rehabilitation**

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Council grant an exemption to Metro Vancouver’s contractor, Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC), from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992, for an average of two nights per week (between Monday to Thursday) excluding Friday and Saturday nights, Sundays or Statutory Holidays, re-commencing September 12, 2022 and ceasing December 23, 2022, to construct utility holes and conduct related works in the 600 - 800 block of Columbia Street.

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### **PURPOSE**

To request that Council grant an exemption from the Construction Noise Bylaw for ORCC to continue construction of utility holes and related works on Columbia Street in the downtown core from September 12, 2022 through December 23, 2022.

### **BACKGROUND**

In May 2022, ORCC obtained an exemption from the Construction Noise Bylaw for the 100 - 300 blocks of Columbia Street (Report #2084708); meanwhile, work paused in the downtown core during the summer season in response to concerns raised by the business community and Downtown Business Improvement Association. There was concern that summer construction, during a peak consumer season, would impact the wellbeing of the downtown business community.

**DISCUSSION**

City staff consider an exemption of the Construction Noise Bylaw from Sept 12 to Dec 23, 2022, to be reasonable for the following three reasons:

- 1. Given that this is a necessary and ongoing phase of the project;
- 2. Given that there are no alternate means to complete this construction project; and
- 3. Given that the project was delayed in the downtown core during the summer months at the City’s request.

Transportation impacts will be managed on an ongoing basis through the City’s standard Street Occupancy Permit process.

*Figure 1. Area of Construction work (Area highlighted in Blue)*



**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No financial impact to the City is anticipated by granting the exemption. If the exemption is not granted, the project will likely be delayed which may result in financial impacts for the applicant.

## **OPTIONS**

There are two options to consider:

1. That Council grant an exemption to Metro Vancouver's contractor, Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC), from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992, for an average of two nights per week (between Monday to Thursday) excluding Friday and Saturday nights, Sundays or Statutory Holidays, re-commencing September 12, 2022 and ceasing December 23, 2022, to construct utility holes and conduct related works in the 600 – 800 Block of Columbia Street.
2. That Council provide staff with alternative direction.

Staff recommend Option 1.

## **APPROVALS**

This report was prepared by:  
Diane Merenick, Manager of Integrated Services

This report was reviewed by:  
Diane Merenick, Manager of Integrated Services  
Mike Anderson, Manager of Transportation  
Lisa Leblanc, Director of Engineering

This report was approved by:  
Emilie K. Adin, Director, Climate Action, Planning and Development  
Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer