New Westminster

511 Royal Avenue
New Westminster BC
V3L 1H9

604 521 3711
info@newwestcity.ca
newwestcity.ca

EAST SIXTH AVENUE TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

About the Project

1. **What is happening in this area?**
   The City of New Westminster is improving East Sixth Avenue between McBride Boulevard and Cumberland Street to enhance safety and accessibility for people walking, cycling, taking transit, and driving. These improvements support access to təməsewtxʷ Aquatic and Community Centre (TACC) and were identified as a priority in the City's *Active Transportation Network Plan* (ATNP).

2. **When will construction take place?**
   Construction is scheduled to begin after the Family Day holiday on **February 17, 2026**, and is expected to continue until **August 2026**. Construction notices with dates and traffic impacts have been distributed to nearby residents and businesses.

3. **Why does the project take several months to complete?**
   Construction is being completed in phases and carefully coordinated to minimize disruption. Weekday work hours are limited to 7:00am–3:00pm, with activities typically ending by **3:00pm**. While this approach extends the overall project timeline, it helps reduce impacts to nearby residents, businesses, and traffic.

4. **Where will construction occur?**
   Work will begin at Cumberland Street and East Sixth Avenue and proceed west toward McBride Boulevard, with additional improvements near TACC.

Access to təməsewtxʷ Aquatic and Community Centre (TACC)

5. **Will access to TACC remain open during construction?**
   Yes. Maintaining access to TACC is a top priority for the City. However, short-term disruptions or temporary closures immediately next to active work areas may occasionally be required. Advance notice will be provided whenever possible. Please check the City's website at www.newwestcity.ca/roadworks for updates.

6. Will parking at TACC be affected?

Parking will continue to be available at TACC throughout construction. The parking lots will remain open, and while parking itself is not impacted, short delays may occur when entering or exiting during nearby construction activity. Facility users should plan to arrive early for scheduled programs and lessons.

7. Will pedestrian access be maintained?

Yes. Safe pedestrian routes will remain available at all times. Some sidewalks may be temporarily detoured as work progresses, but signed routes will be provided to maintain safe access to TACC.

Traffic and Transit Impacts

8. Will there be traffic delays?

Yes. Drivers should expect occasional temporary lane reductions, lane shifts, and delays particularly near East Sixth Avenue from Cumberland Street to McBride Boulevard. Traffic control personnel and signage will be in place to guide vehicles safely through the area. Work activities will typically take place Monday to Friday until 3:00pm to help minimize traffic impacts. On Saturdays, work may continue until 6:00pm.

9. Will transit service be affected?

Bus stops near the construction area may be temporarily relocated during certain phases of work. For the most up-to-date stop locations and schedules, Please check TransLink service updates for current stop locations and schedules.

10. How will emergency vehicles be accommodated?

Emergency access will be maintained at all times. Construction crews coordinate closely with emergency services to keep response routes open.

Future Road and Traffic Changes

11. Why is the City removing parking from East Sixth Avenue and Cumberland Street?

Some on-street parking is being removed to accommodate new eastbound and northbound left-turn lanes. These changes improve safety, traffic flow, and visibility and reduce conflicts between vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. The City understands parking changes can be challenging and has balanced these impacts with the safety needs of the wider community.

12. Why is a traffic signal replacing the 4-way stop at Cumberland Street and East Sixth Avenue?

This intersection experiences significant traffic volumes, and the City has heard concerns about safety at this intersection, particularly for people crossing the street, including school-aged children. A new traffic signal will provide safer and more reliable crossings, improve bus speed and reliability, and establish clearer right-of-way, especially during peak periods. Traffic operations will continue to be monitored and signal timings adjusted as needed.

13. Will the left-turn arrow at East Sixth Avenue and McBride Boulevard remain?

Yes. The left-turn signal phase at McBride Boulevard will remain for the time being. This change was introduced during regional construction impacts (Patullo Bridge), and the City will continue monitoring traffic conditions along the corridor will continue to be monitored, and adjustments may be made in the future if required.

14. Why is the bi-directional bike lane staying on East Sixth Avenue?

Supporting safe travel for people of all ages and abilities is a City priority. East Sixth Avenue is identified in the *Active Transportation Network Plan* as an important connection to the Aquatic and Community Centre and Queen's Park. Because construction is focused on the north side of the street, the existing bi-directional bike lane is being upgraded to meet current design guidelines and provide a safer, more comfortable route.

Contact Us

Engineering & Public Works
604 527 4592 | engpost@newwestcity.ca