

CITY OF VANCOUVER BRITISH COLUMBIA



CROSSING BY-LAW NO. 4644

**This By-law is printed under and
by authority of the Council of
the City of Vancouver**

**(Consolidated for convenience only
to December 9, 2025)**

BY-LAW NO. 4644

**A By-law for prohibiting, controlling
and regulating crossings over sidewalks,
streets and boulevards**

**[Consolidated for convenience only,
amended to include By-law No. 14529
effective January 1, 2026]**

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, in open meeting assembled,
enacts as follows:

1. This by-law may be cited as the "Crossing By-law".
2. In this by-law unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (a) "commercial crossing" means any crossing to land used for other than single detached houses or duplexes;
 - (b) "crossing" means any crossing provided or to be provided to afford vehicular access from a roadway to land abutting thereon;
 - (c) "Engineer" shall mean the City Engineer appointed from time to time by the City of Vancouver.
3. Except for crossings from a lane to land abutting thereon, no person shall excavate for, construct, or use any crossing until such person has received a permit from the Engineer so to do, which permit may be revoked by the Engineer at any time.
4. Except for crossings from a lane to land abutting thereon, any person desiring to excavate for, construct, or use any crossing shall submit to the Engineer a written application therefor, together with such plans and specifications showing the detail thereof as may be required by the said Engineer, and upon being satisfied as to the safety and advisability of such crossing the Engineer may issue a permit authorizing the construction of the crossing upon payment of the fee hereinafter set out, but subject to any conditions the Engineer considers appropriate, including conditions regarding:
 - (a) the construction, maintenance, relocation, or removal of any public works or utilities, other than conduits, that are affected by the construction of the crossing or the removal of an existing crossing, all of which must be performed to a standard satisfactory to the Engineer;
 - (b) in the case of commercial crossings, the replacement, improvement or installation of any conduits that are affected by the construction of the crossing or the removal of an existing crossing, which work will be carried out by the City;
 - (c) the removal of an existing crossing that is no longer being used or will no longer be used to afford vehicular access from a roadway to the land; and

- (d) the deposit with the City of a sum of money in a form satisfactory to the City in an amount adequate to cover the City's costs to bring any work required under section 4(a) and section 4(c) above to a standard satisfactory to the Engineer if the owner fails to do so, and to cover the City's costs to carry out any work required under section 4(b) above, which deposit may be used by the City to carry out such work.

4A. The holder of a permit issued pursuant to section 4 shall bear all costs for and associated with the construction of the new crossing and the removal of an existing crossing, including:

- (a) the costs of any required construction, maintenance, relocation, or removal of any public works or utilities, except conduits, that are affected by the construction of the crossing or the removal of an existing crossing; and
- (b) in the case of commercial crossings, the costs of any required conduit replacement, improvement or installation work carried out by the City.

4B. Where the City Engineer determines that an existing crossing is no longer being used to afford vehicular access from a roadway to land abutting thereon, the Engineer may order the removal of such crossing, upon receipt of which order the owner shall:

- (a) remove the crossing;
- (b) restore any affected sidewalks, curbs, boulevards, public works or utilities, and any other City land to City standards, other than conduits; and
- (c) arrange for the City to carry out any work required to restore any affected conduits to City standards,

and the owner bear all costs for such removal and restoration.

5. The right of any person to construct, maintain or use any crossing shall be subject at any and all times to the right of the City, its agents or servants, of entering upon the premises of the owner, as well as upon the crossing for the purpose of inspecting the crossing or maintaining or removing the said crossing, as well as constructing, maintaining, inspecting or removing any public works or utilities that have been or may be installed above or below the said crossing.

6. All crossings which are constructed in accordance with this by-law, as well as those heretofore existing, may continue in use until such permission is revoked by the Engineer, and until such permission is revoked the owner of the land appurtenant to such crossing shall keep the same in good and sufficient repair satisfactory to the Engineer.

7. The owner of land to which any crossing is appurtenant and every person who constructs any crossing shall, in respect of that crossing, at all times be liable for and shall indemnify the City against any and every claim, loss, expense, damage or any suit or demand which may be occasioned by or incidental to the construction, existence, use or maintenance of any crossing.

8. (a) Every person who violates any of the provisions of this by-law or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention or in violation of any of the provisions of this by-law, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing anything required to be done by any of the provisions of this by-law, or who does any act which violates any of the provisions of this by-law is guilty of an offence against this by-law and liable to the penalties hereby imposed. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offence.
- (b) Every person who commits an offence against this by-law is liable to a fine and penalty of not more than \$10,000.00 and not less than \$250.00 for each offence.
- (c) Every person who commits an offence of a continuing nature against this By-law is liable to a fine not less than \$250.00 and not more than \$10,000.00 for each day such offence continues.
9. Before a permit is issued pursuant to section 4, applicants shall pay to the City all applicable fees as set out in Schedule A.
10. By-law No. 2346 being the Area By-law is hereby repealed but no so as to revive any provisions not contained herein.
11. This by-law shall come into force and take effect on the date of the final passing hereof.

DONE AND PASSED in open Council this 29th day of August, 1972.

(sgd) "Halford D. Wilson"
Deputy Mayor

(sgd) "Douglas H. Little"
Deputy City Clerk

Schedule A
Fees

1. Inspection fee, per crossing (including any crossings that are being removed):
\$142.60 for crossings of up to and including 20 square metres, plus
\$12.95 for each additional square metre or part thereof,

to a maximum fee of \$1,001.20
2. In the case of new commercial crossings, an additional fee of:
\$818.80 per crossing, plus
\$100.17 per foot for each foot of width of the proposed crossing over 36 feet
measured at the curb