

## Infrastructure & Operations Department

## Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, Director – Legislative FILE:

Services & City Clerk

**FROM:** Kayla Dixon, Commissioner – Infrastructure & Operations

**DATE:** 09/07/2025 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**SUBJECT:** Marina Overpass Safety and Cleanliness Response

MEETING &

DATE:

Quality of Life Standing Committee – 09/23/2025

This memorandum is to provide the Standing Committee with information on Administration's actions to address ongoing vandalism, litter, and safety concerns with the pedestrian overpass to the marina.

The Marina Pedestrian Overpass connects the downtown north core with Prince Arthur's Landing. This structure sees significant visitor traffic and is busy during events downtown and at the marina but also experiences regular pedestrian use throughout the year. It was rehabilitated in 2021.

There are ongoing concerns with vandalism and cleanliness of the approach ramp and structure as well as perceived safety concerns of users due to loitering in the structure. Regularly, there are broken bottles, bodily fluid and other litter cleaned from the structure and ramp. Since its rehabilitation, seven panes of the glass that encloses the structure have had to be replaced at an approximate cost of \$4,500 per pane, with at least fifteen additional panes that are cracked remaining that do not yet warrant replacement. Graffiti is also frequently removed from the structure and ramp.

Roads staff inspect the structure daily from Monday to Friday between May and November, and every other day during the remainder of the year. Litter is removed as needed during these inspections. Parks staff provide year-round support with graffiti removal and litter collection on the ramp. The structure is power washed five times each summer, typically before long weekends and in consideration of cruise ship dockings.

Cleanliness and safety concerns persist, even with the significant attention paid to addressing them.

Members of Administration including Roads, Parks, Engineering, Strategy and Engagement, and By-law were consulted to identify options to address the ongoing concerns. In an effort to reduce these impacts, Administration is moving forward with closing the ramp and structure at night. A fence and gate will be constructed on the marina side of the structure and a gate installed on the downtown side to stop nighttime use. The structure will be locked from 11 pm to 6 am. The Park is closed from 1:30 am to 6 am as per the By-law.

The Waterfront BIA was contacted and they are supportive of the action. Bight Restaurant at Prince Arthur's Landing closes at 10 pm and should not be impacted. The Delta Hotel will be informed so they can let their guests know. Signage will be installed so that users of the overpass will be aware of the closure as well as alternate pedestrian entrances/exits to the marina. The timing of the closure will be varied appropriately for scheduled events and communicated through the event media.

It is acknowledged that loitering and littering occur throughout the day, but it is expected that closing the overpass overnight will mitigate some of the negative impacts.

No additional budget needs to be approved to facilitate this closure. The gates and fence will be installed with existing capital carry forward funds and locking/unlocking of the gates will be done by security staff who are already on site.