

SOUTH VANCOUVER NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR PEOPLE

SVNH COMMUNITY FORUM

SEPT 17, 2022

Hosted by: Dr. Meg Holden, Professor, SFU Urban Studies

Introduction & Welcome: Mimi Renie, Executive Director, SVNH
and Nanette Wong, SVNH Board Chair



FORUM GOALS

- Hear results of new research on neighbourhood inequities and assets.
- Voice priorities and solutions for making social infrastructure in South Vancouver better for everyone.
- Learn how cities work and how to get involved in shaping the future of your neighbourhood.
- Connect with neighbours, community leaders, city planners and decision-makers.
- Celebrate the diverse people and places of South Vancouver.

PLAN FOR THE DAY

| | |
|---------|--|
| 11:25AM | PRESENTATION: INTRO TO SVNH + REFRAMING SOUTH VAN |
| 11:40AM | PRESENTATION: EXPOSING NEIGHBOURHOOD INEQUITIES |
| 11:55AM | PRESENTATION: VOICES FROM SOUTH VANCOUVER |
| 12:30PM | LUNCH! |
| 1:00PM | DIALOGUE SESSIONS |

Traditional Land Acknowledgement

by SVNH House Elders:

Elder Lorelei Hawkins &
Elder Al Houston

We would like to acknowledge and give thanks to be able to live, work, and learn on the unceded, occupied, ancestral and traditional homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. We thank the Nations for sharing their beautiful land, the sun, the air, and water with us and allowing us to strengthen and grow as a family. We recognize the vast cultural diversity of Indigenous people and acknowledge the importance of their opinions, representation, and culture.



South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (SVNH)

Vision

Everyone in South Vancouver lives in a healthy and engaged community.

Mission

SVNH plays a leadership role in building healthy and engaged neighbourhoods in South Vancouver by connecting people and strengthening their capacity to create change.



South Vancouver – more than one neighbourhood

- “South Vancouver” is made up of **three separate and distinct neighbourhoods**: Sunset, Victoria-Fraserview, Killarney.
- When all neighbourhoods are combined, **diversity of voices** across the region are lost.
- Neighbourhoods are far apart and disconnected from one another, with limited transit options (average walk score of 62 vs. 78 in City overall).
- In other parts of the City of Vancouver, neighbourhoods of similar geography and population are treated as **unique neighbourhoods**.



South Van - Diverse in Every Way

- “South Vancouver” is the **most racialized** area of Vancouver with **80% visible minorities**.
- “South Vancouver” has the **most immigrants** of anywhere in Vancouver (56% of the population).
- 68.6% of the population have a **non-English first language** (vs. 46% in Vancouver overall).
- “South Vancouver” has the highest average household size, lowest percentage of persons living alone (7%), highest percentage of households with children (51%)
 - implies many multigenerational households.
- 1% growth rate in population from 2011-2016.

Well-Being Indicators for Children

| | City of Vancouver | Sunset | Victoria-Fraserview | Killarney |
|--|-------------------|--------|---------------------|--|
| Kindergarten children vulnerable on one or more scales | 36% | 52% | 42% | 32% (significant improvement since 2013 – 43%) |
| Grade 7 students with low well-being | 38% | 38% | 42% | 47% |

Early Development Index (EDI) vulnerability scales include:

- Communication Skills & General Knowledge
- Social Competence
- Emotional Maturity
- Physical Health & Well-Being
- Language & Cognitive Development

MDI low well-being indicators include:

- Less adult relationships
- Less after-school activities
- Less peer relationships
- Less nutrition and sleep

| Statistic | Vancouver Overall | Sunset | Victoria-Fraserview | Killarney |
|--|-------------------|--------|---------------------|-----------|
| % of families with children under 6 below the after-tax Low-Income Measure | 17.6% | 19.6% | 23.3% | 17.7% |
| % of people who walk or cycle as their primary mode to run errands | 38.1% | 11.5% | 12.9% | 9.8% |
| % of people within a 15-minute walk to a “community hub” (community centre, library and neighbourhood house) | 43% | 6% | 37% | 29% |
| % of people who have 4+ people to confide in/turn to for help | 49.5% | 43% | 37% | 41.4% |
| % of people who report having excellent/very good health | 50% | 42.5% | 38.9% | 43.1% |

Quality of Life in South Vancouver

Vision

what we strive for

Everyone in South Vancouver
lives in a healthy and engaged community



Mission

what we will do

Play a leadership role in building healthy and engaged neighbourhoods by connecting people and strengthening their capacity to create change

Values

how we will do our work

Collaborative. Being community driven and working together with our neighbours, community members and partners

Courageous. Providing progressive leadership that embraces complexity and makes difficult decisions when necessary

Equitable. Striving to ensure just and fair inclusion wherein all can participate, reach their full potential, and thrive

Empowering. Building capacity based on the strengths of the residents of our neighbourhood

Strategic Priorities

Our focus for 2020-2023

Reframing South Vancouver

SVNH recognizes and responds to the unique strengths and qualities of each South Van neighbourhood

Connected Neighbourhoods

Residents feel connected to their neighbours and their neighbourhood

Visibility

SVNH has a strong brand and is known by people in South Van

Sufficient Funding

Sustainable unrestricted funding to serve South Van

The Difference We Make



Reframing South Vancouver Initiative

Presenters:

**Liza Bautista, Manager
Neighbourhood Equity &
Representation**

**Lavleen Sahota,
Developmental Consultant,
Level Up Planning Collaborative
Inc.**



THE SOUTH VANCOUVER COMMUNITY

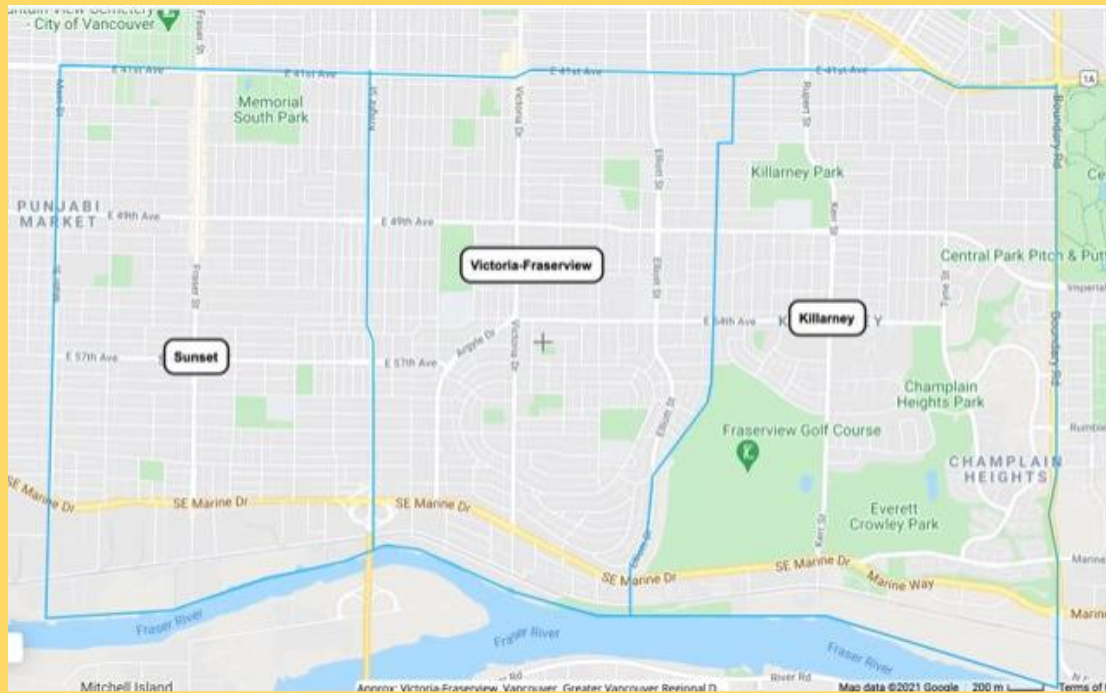
South Vancouver:

- From East 41st Ave to Marine Dr, and Main St to Boundary Rd
- Encompasses Killarney, Victoria-Fraserview, and Sunset areas
- **Underserved** in terms of: Social infrastructure and community assets – **resourced as one**
 - 51% households with children
 - Median Personal Income: \$26,000 (VS City average: \$33,000)

Reframing South Vancouver Initiative:

SVNH is working to **reframe** how **decision-makers** at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government view South Vancouver!

THE SOUTH VANCOUVER COMMUNITY



City of Vancouver South Van Catchment map



Next Door App's micro-neighbourhood map

PHASE 1 OVERVIEW surveyed approximately **500** residents

We conducted several sessions with speakers of Mandarin, Cantonese, Hindi, Punjabi, Tagalog, Spanish, Vietnamese and Arabic

We did outreach at Community Centres (Killarney, Champlain and Sunset) and Libraries (Sunset, Fraserview and Champlain)

Social connection spaces

Libraries, community centres, SVNH, parks, cafes, restaurants

Gaps:

Lack of queer programming, wheelchair accessibility, out of date and broken playground equipment



- **Assets:**
Green spaces, ethnic diversity, access to amenities, community feel

Reframing South Vancouver Initiative



Phase 2



Continue to build relationships with underrepresented groups within South Vancouver

Understand barriers to engagement



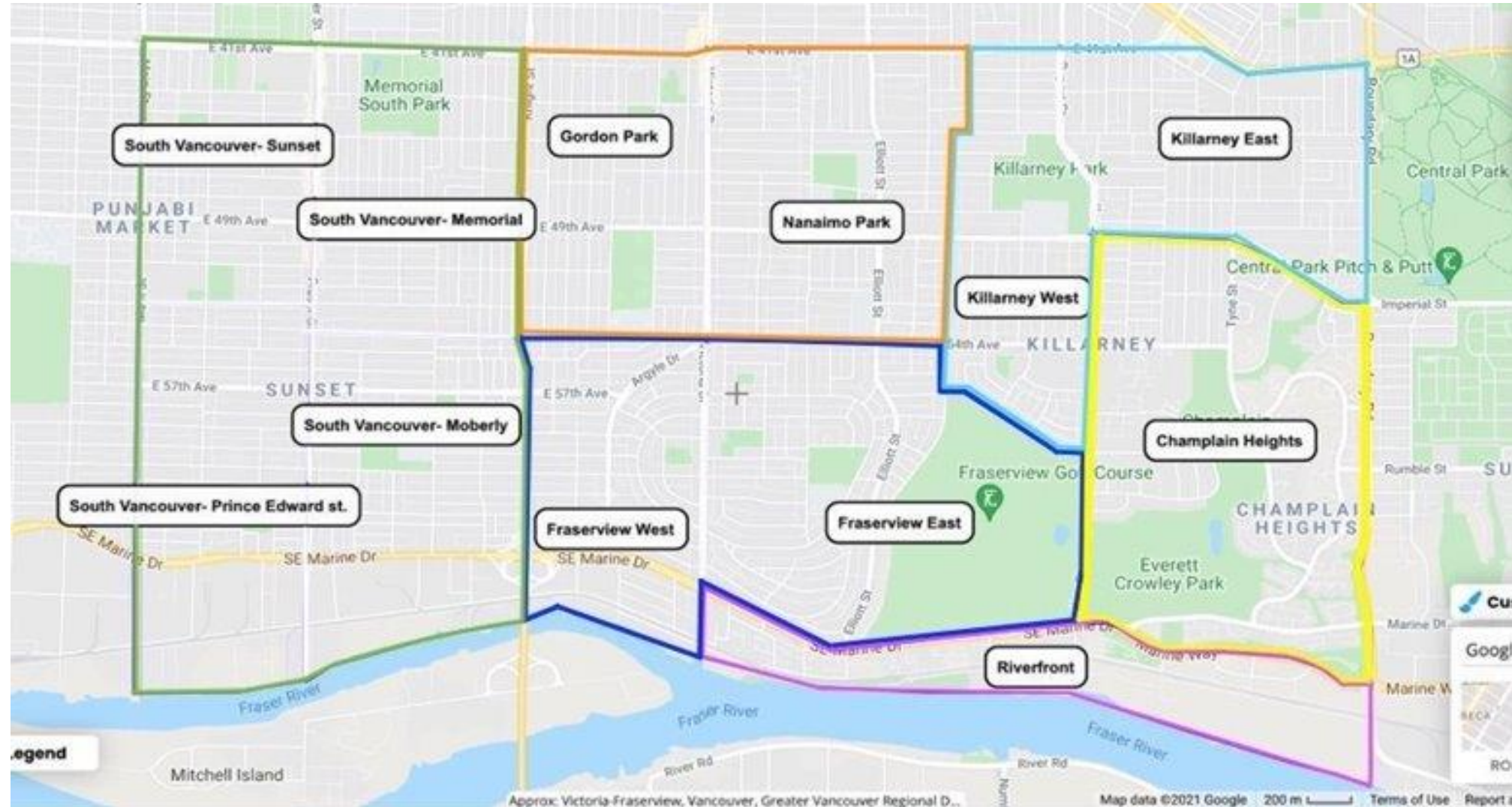
50+ community engagements and over 1,000 individuals engaged



Establishment of 6 Neighbourhood Advisory Committees (NACs)

Cohort 1 Training begins October 15, 2021

6 Neighbourhood Advisory Committees





Reframing South Vancouver
Initiative is funded by

vancouver
foundation



Follow Us on Social Media!



SVNH Reframing South Vancouver



@reframing_sv



Thank you!

Questions and Comments?

RSVI Team



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Prabhi Deol, Community Engagement Programmer

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Cherry Wong, Community Engagement Programmer

☎: 778-712-8990 ✉: cherry.wong@southvan.org

Social Infrastructure and unmet needs in South Vancouver, BC

Partnership between South Vancouver Neighbourhood House and Simon Fraser University Urban Studies and Faculty of Health Sciences

South Vancouver Neighbourhoods for People
September 17, 2022

Speaking today on behalf of our team:
Farina Fassihi MURB



Social infrastructure are the places and spaces where people gather to connect, learn, and support each other

Source: City of Vancouver

Objectives

Gather data on social infrastructure spending in Vancouver
(e.g., City of Vancouver, BC government, VanCity)

Identify inequities in infrastructure spending and gaps in service needs
(Map and analyze data with a focus on diverse communities)

Anchor data within stories from South Vancouver residents

Community and service focus areas

LGBTQ2S+

Older
adults

Families

Youth

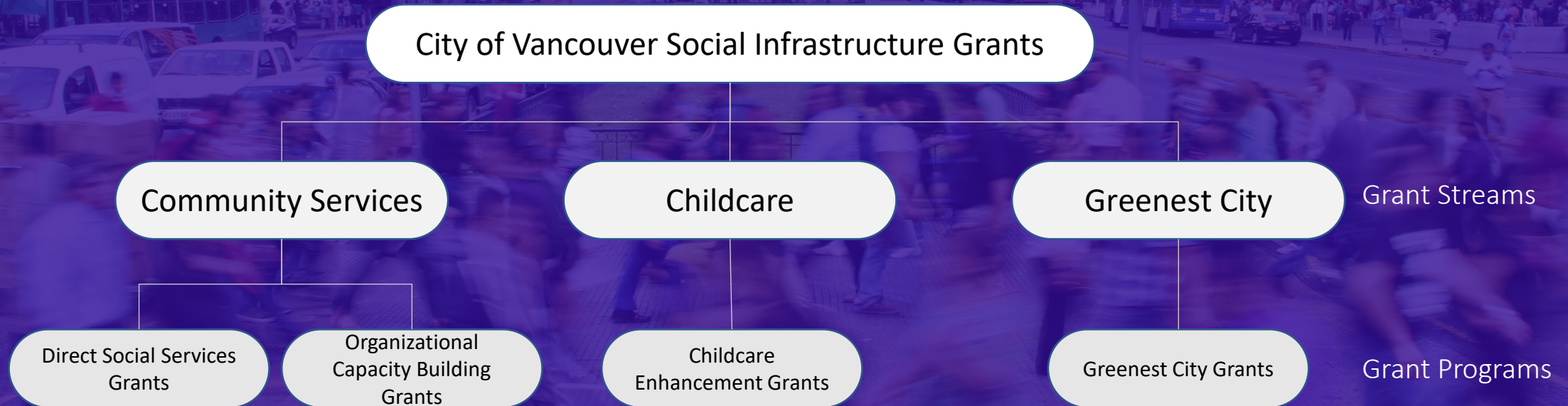
Access to Healthcare

Indigenous
People

Mobility

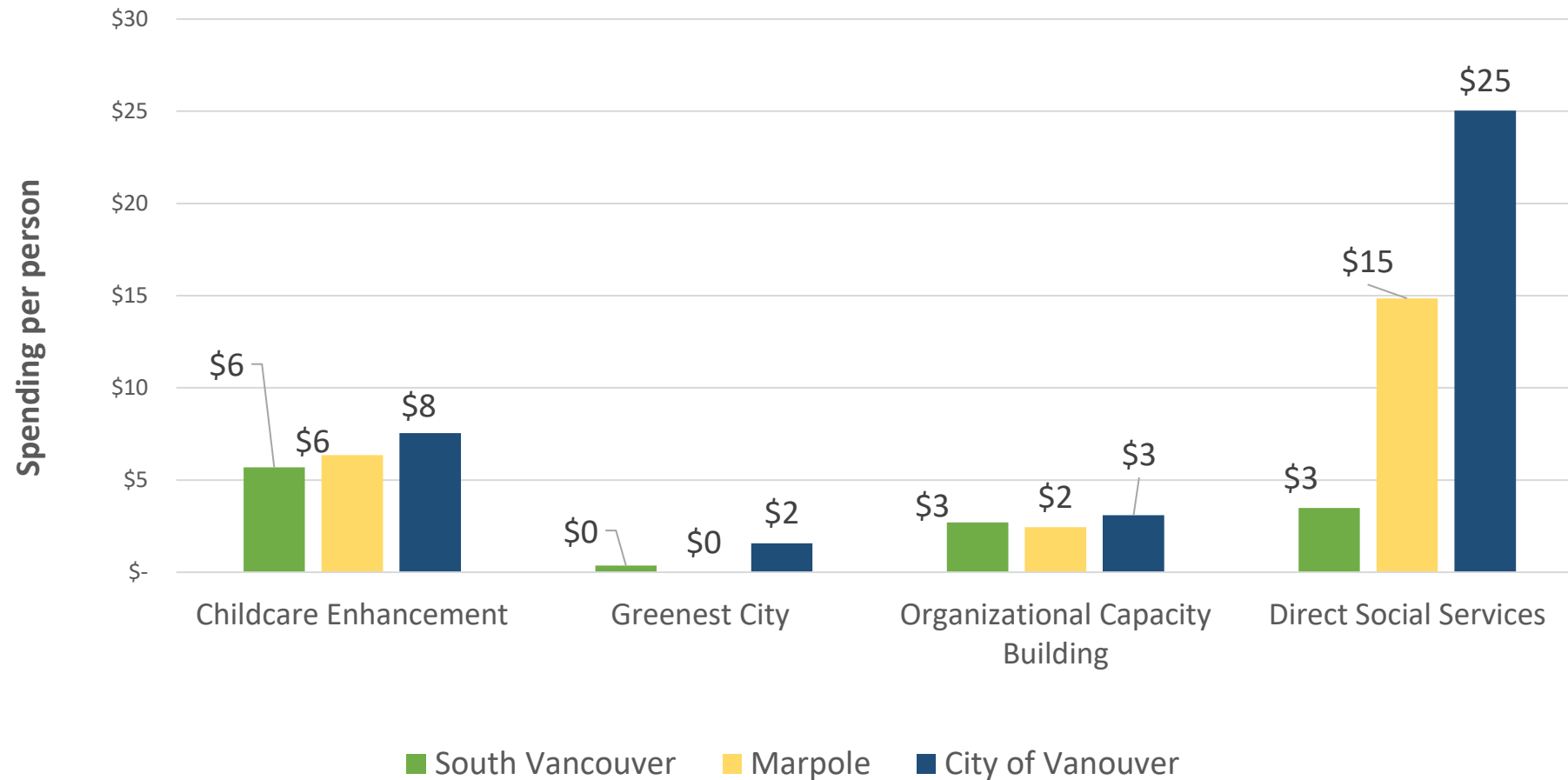
Recent
immigrants

Neighborhood social infrastructure funding from City of Vancouver



Source: City of Vancouver, 2020

Social infrastructure spending, City of Vancouver, 2016 to 2020



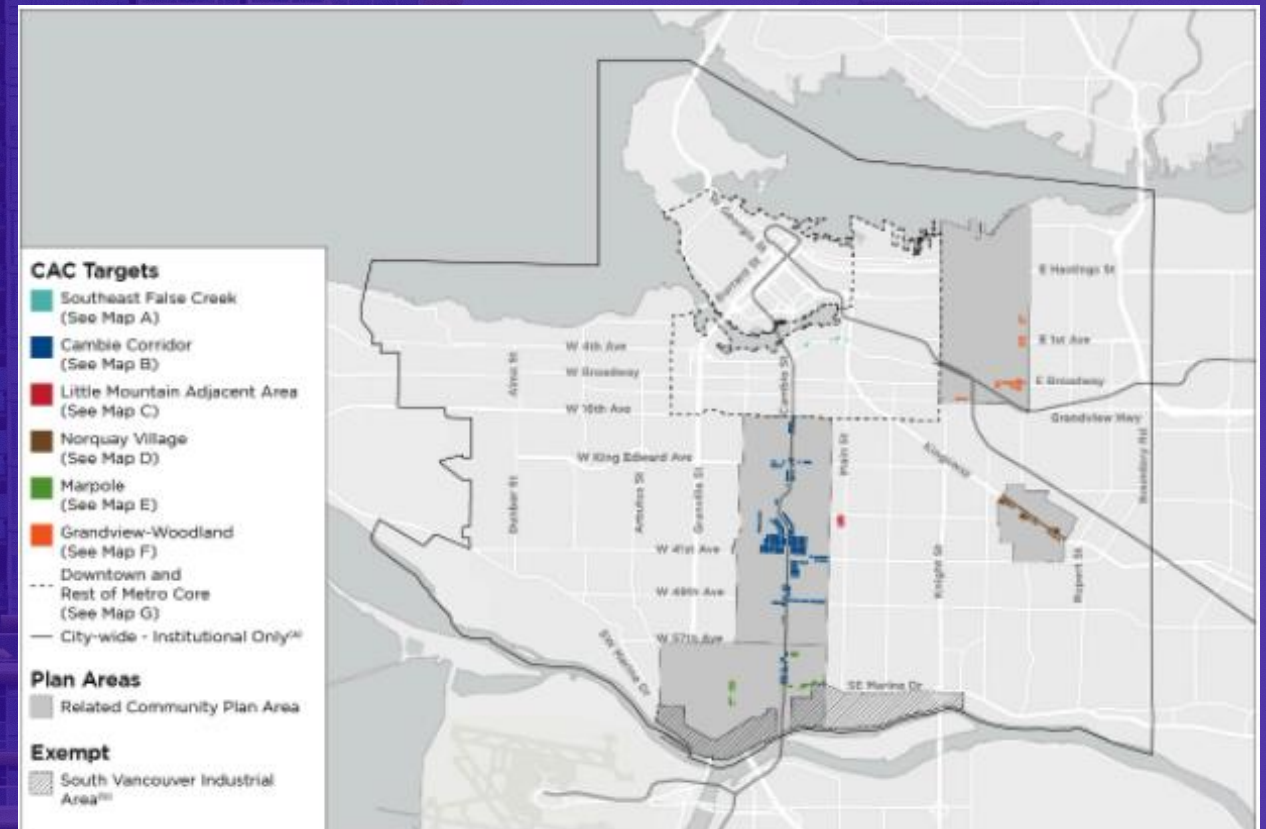
Social Infrastructure funding from developments

Development Cost Levies (DCL)

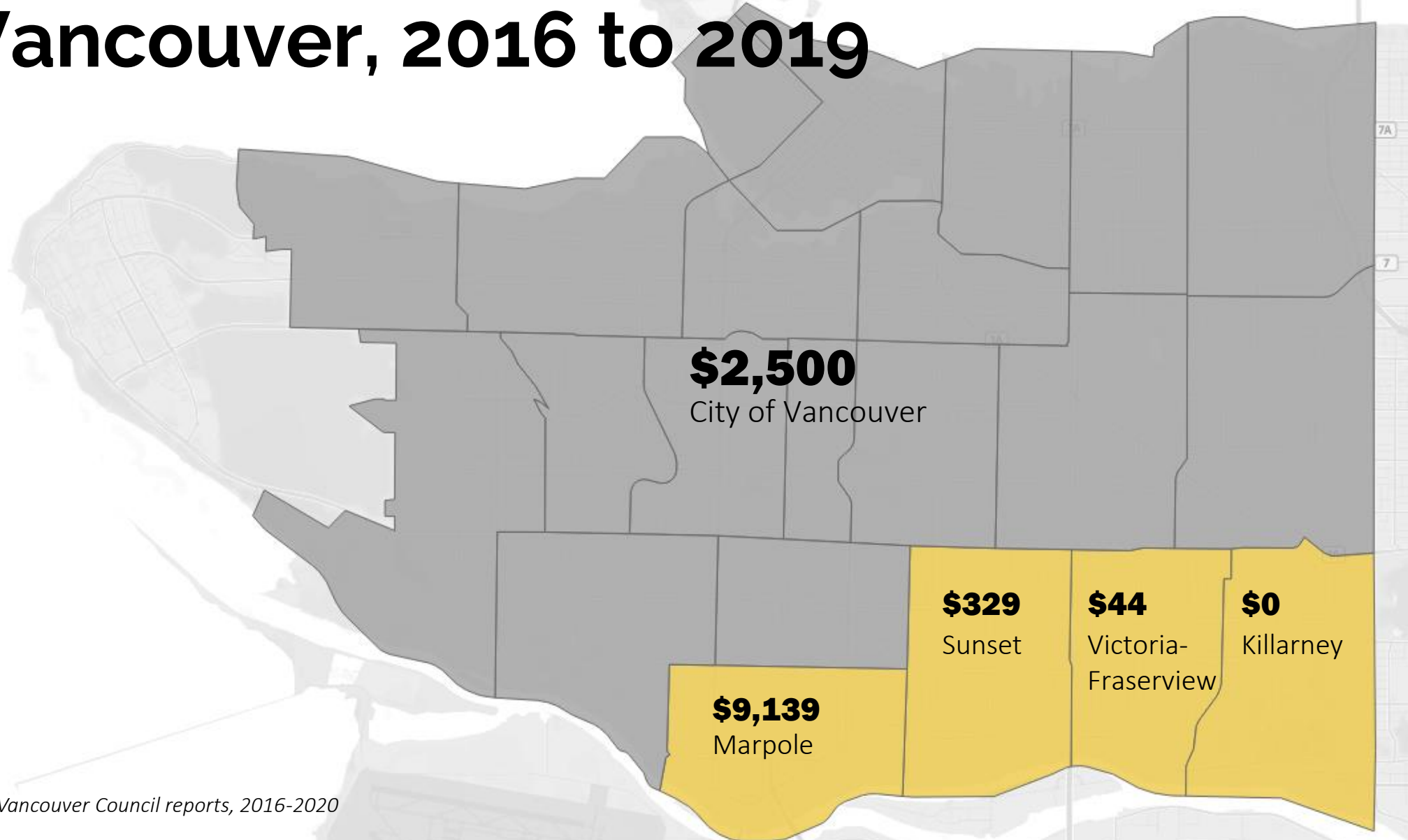
- Pay per square footage of project
- Funding for facilities (parks, childcare, income restricted housing)

Community Amenity Contributions (CAC)

- Paid when development rights are granted
- Funding for facilities, priorities in redevelopment areas

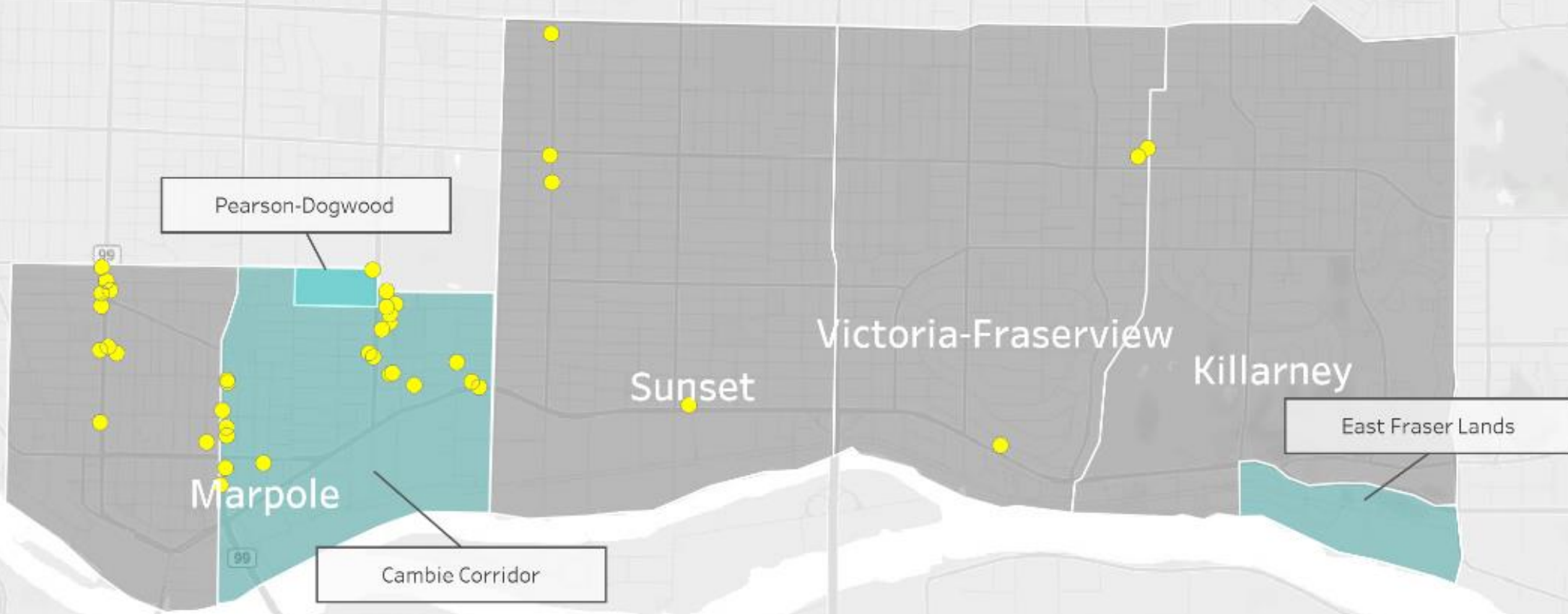


Development funds per person in Vancouver, 2016 to 2019



Source: City of Vancouver Council reports, 2016-2020

Development locations in South Vancouver, 2016 to 2019



Source: City of Vancouver Council reports, 2016-2020

Park projects completed from development funding, 2009 to 2019



24% of Vancouver youth live in South Vancouver

Youth use social infrastructure in South Vancouver

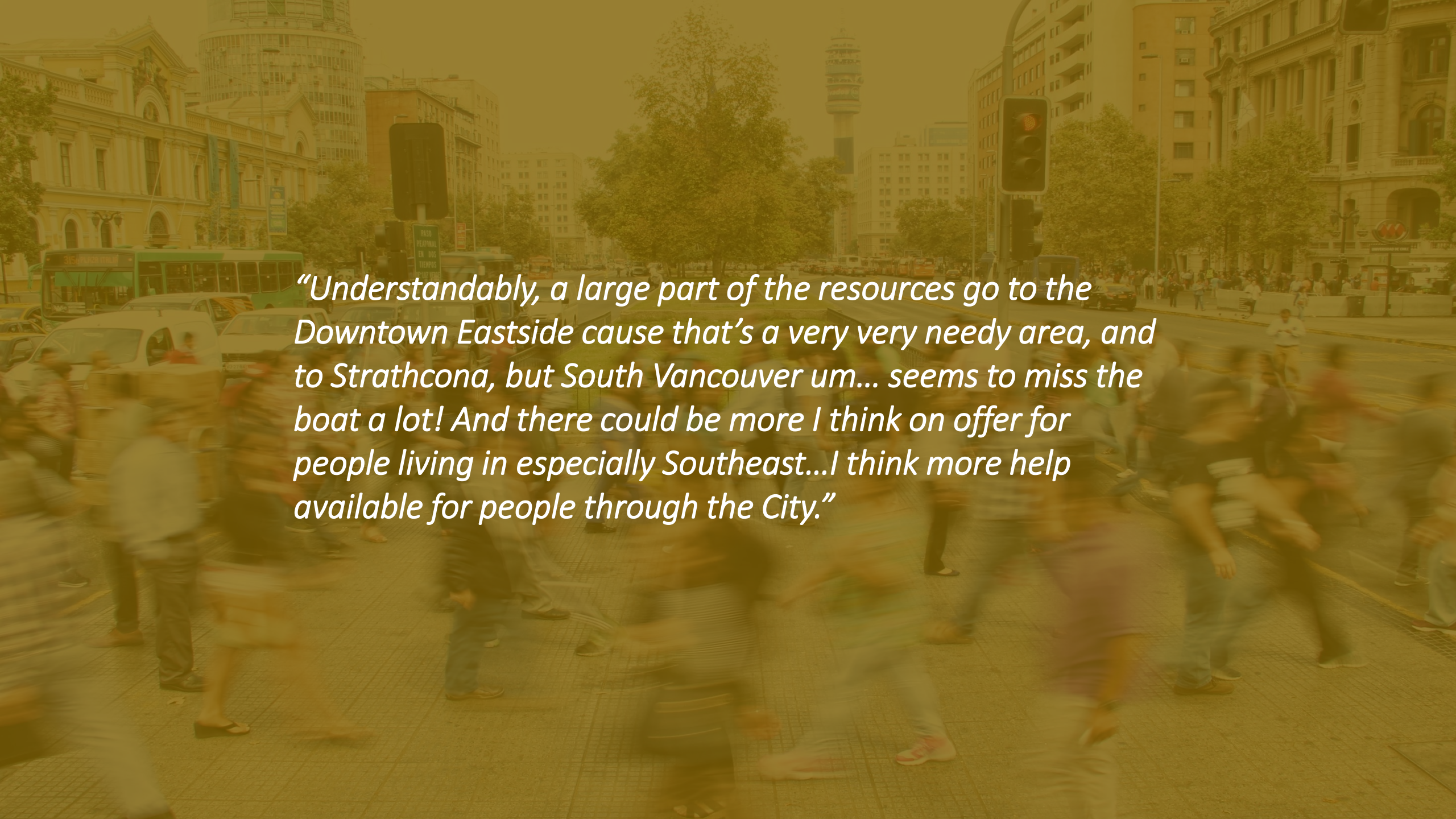
In community centers during 2017:

(Killarney, Champlain Heights, Sunset, Marple Oakridge)

42,032 youth visits

19,194 engaged in recreational activities

5,310 participated in volunteering



“Understandably, a large part of the resources go to the Downtown Eastside cause that’s a very very needy area, and to Strathcona, but South Vancouver um... seems to miss the boat a lot! And there could be more I think on offer for people living in especially Southeast...I think more help available for people through the City.”

What we learned

South Vancouver is not a single neighbourhood but four distinct neighbourhoods with characteristics and needs that need to be considered independently

Lack of systematic data collection and record keeping by the City further compounds inequities in advocacy and resources for South Vancouver

South Vancouver residents confront challenges in accessing services and resources, that have been promised to all residents of the City of Vancouver

Stories illustrated how these relative deficiencies affect their daily lives. Such voices need to be heard in planning for South Vancouver

Thank you!



WELCOME TO THE YOUTH.HOOD

A COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH
COLLABORATION BETWEEN SFU URBAN STUDIES
AND HEALTH SCIENCES, AND THE SOUTH
VANCOUVER NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

FUNDED BY SSHRC + SFU CERi

Presenter/Researcher:

Meredith Sones, PhD Candidate | Faculty of Health Sciences

Youth Ambassadors / Presenters:

Megan Moy, Emily Eng & Lucas Chan



CityHive

SFU



**WHAT FEATURES IN SOUTH VAN NEIGHBOURHOODS
HELP OR HINDER SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS FOR YOUTH?**

**WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE TO MAKE SOUTH VAN
NEIGHBOURHOODS MORE SOCIABLE FOR YOUTH?**



**“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”
— Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities***

YOUTH.HOOD OBJECTIVES

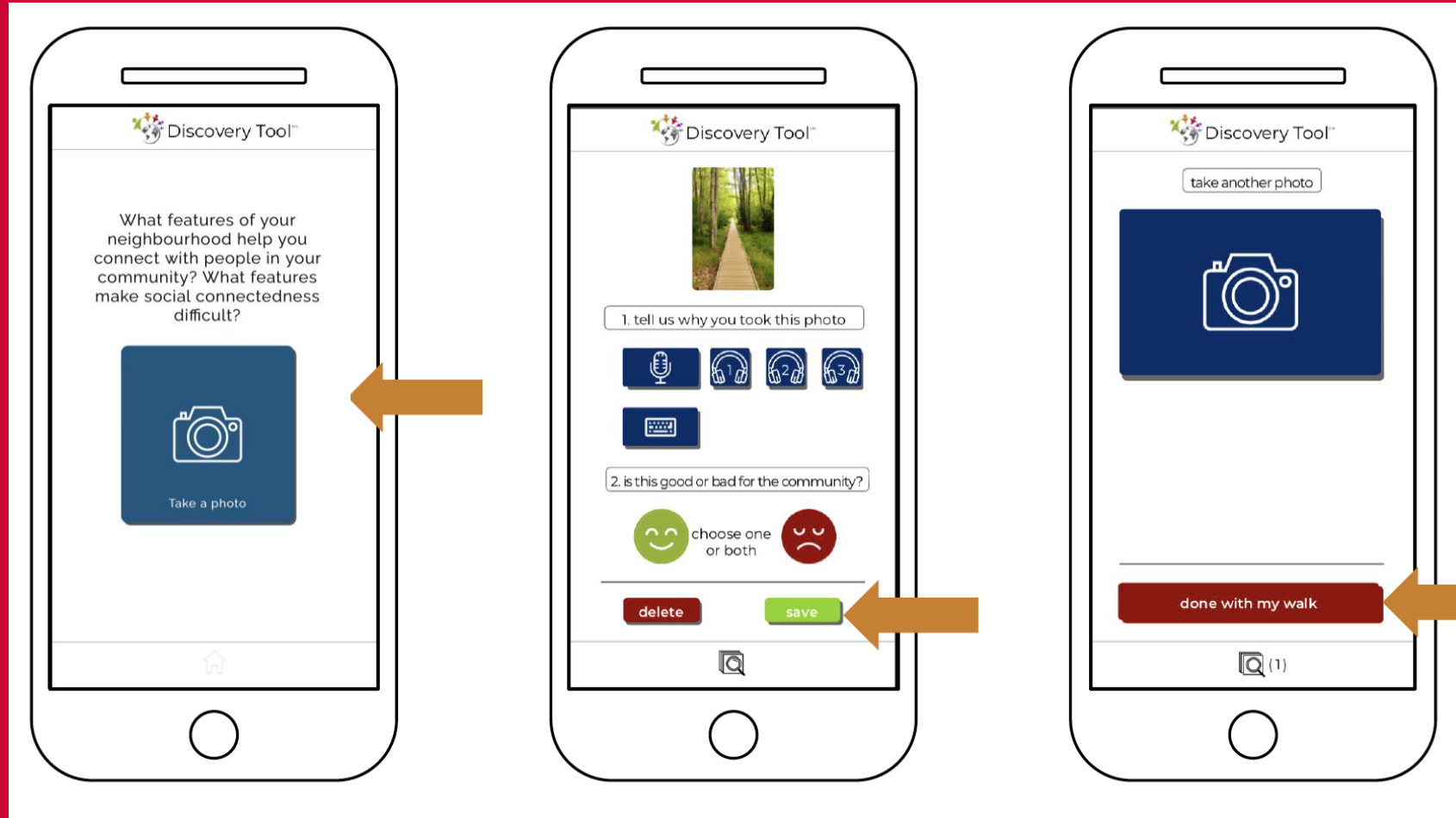
The Youth.hood study is engaging youth living in South Van to:

1. **Assess** features of their neighbourhood environments that impact social connectedness using a smartphone app;
2. **Analyze** results of their assessments and prioritize neighbourhood issues or features to be addressed;
3. **Advocate** for environmental solutions that promote social connectedness in their neighbourhoods.

YOUTH.HOOD COMMUNITY SCIENTISTS



PHASE 1 ASSESS



PHASE 2 ANALYZE

YOUTH.HOOD DESIGN JAM

A fast + fun workshop to brainstorm solutions for boosting youth social connectedness in South Vancouver.

Across South Vancouver, Youth.hood community scientists like you have come together to map things in your neighbourhood that are good or bad for social connectedness. What next? If you could reimagine your neighbourhood into a more sociable place for youth, what would you change?

Join us at the Youth.hood Design Jam, where you will:

- Learn how cities work, and how urban planning can shape your social connectedness
- Prioritize things in your neighbourhood that help or hurt youth social connectedness the most
- Design solutions to improve your neighbourhood and promote connectedness for youth in the community

What you'll gain:

- \$50 gift card, plus a certificate of participation
- Improved knowledge and skills for civic engagement
- An opportunity to volunteer as a Youth.hood Ambassador and be a voice for South Vancouver youth in a future meeting with community leaders and urban planners
- Dinner on us!

Wednesday June 1, 2022 | 3:30pm – 6:30pm
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House
6470 Victoria Drive, Vancouver

Email Meridith to reserve your spot:
msones@sfu.ca

SFU



PHASE 3
ADVOCATE



FOR YOUTH IN SOUTH
VANCOUVER





FOOD + CAFES



PARKS AND GREEN SPACES



LIBRARIES



SHOPPING STREETS

YOUTH IN SOUTH VAN NEED
INFRASTRUCTURE THAT
MAKES GETTING AROUND
WITHOUT A CAR EASIER,
SAFER, AND MORE
ENJOYABLE.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS BARRIERS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION

- Lack of active transportation infrastructure
- Unsafe road and sidewalk conditions
- Transit comfort and convenience



LACK OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE





UNSAFE ROAD AND SIDEWALK CONDITIONS





TRANSIT COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE

DESIGN CHALLENGE: TRANSPORTATION

How might we make it easier, safer, and more enjoyable for youth to get around without a car?

- Improve condition of sidewalks and roads
- Separated bike lanes and other mechanisms to protect cyclists
- Improved transit connections and bus stops

LACK OF UPKEEP
DISCOURAGES US FROM
CONNECTING IN
NEIGHBOURHOOD SPACES,
BY MAKING OUR
COMMUNITIES FEEL UNSAFE
AND UNINVITING.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS BARRIERS RELATED TO NEIGHBOURHOOD UPKEEP

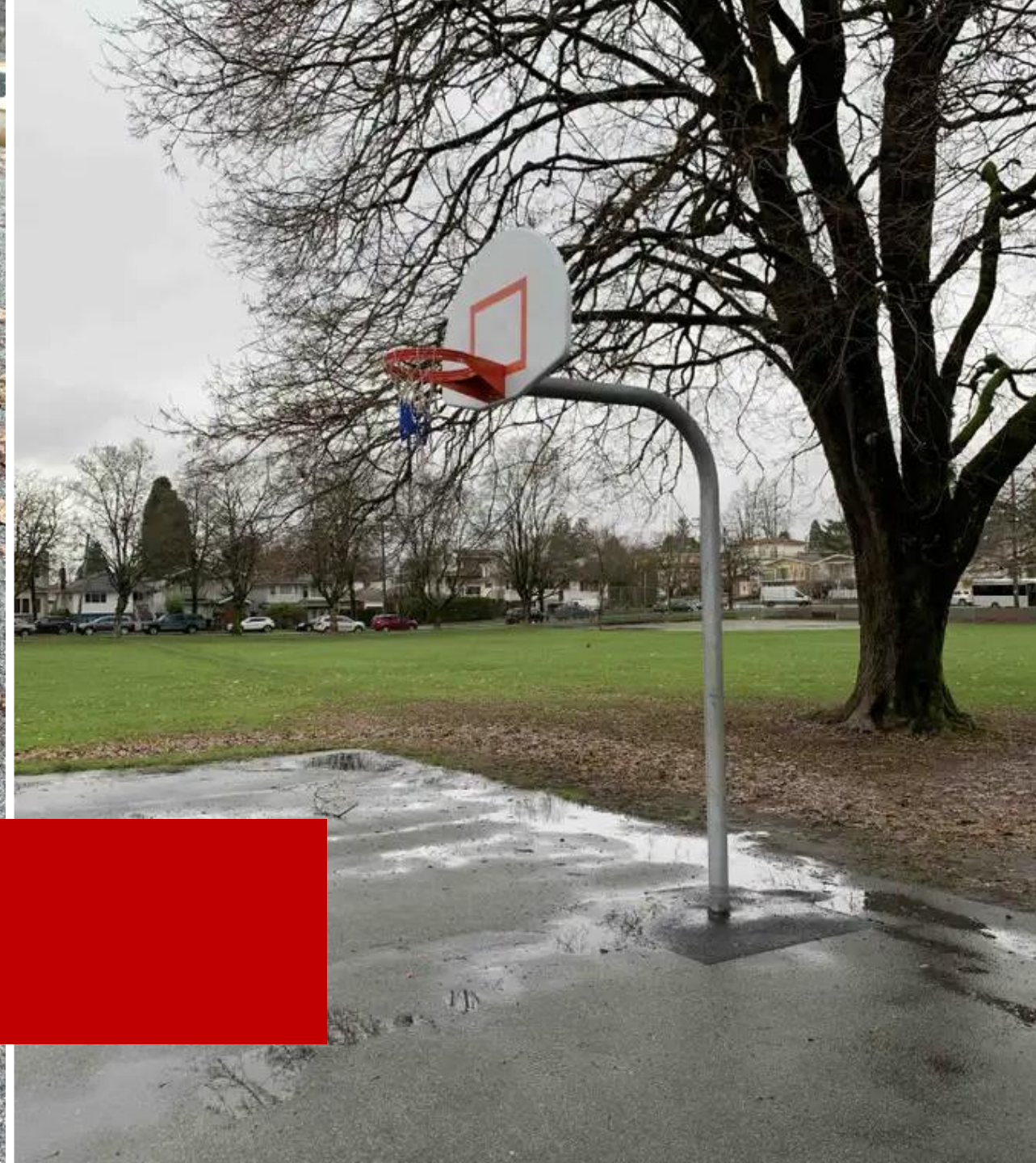
- Garbage
- Disrepair
- Vandalism



GARBAGE



DISREPAIR





VANDALISM



DESIGN CHALLENGE: NEIGHBOURHOOD UPKEEP

How might we improve upkeep, cleanliness and responsiveness to neglected spaces in our neighbourhoods?

- Create incentives (e.g. money, food) for residents to clean garbage and litter, and form neighbourhood clean-up groups
- Install more garbage and recycling bins and call the City of Vancouver to fix unsafe infrastructure
- Improve communal areas

WE WANT SPACES TO
GATHER THAT ARE NATURAL,
COLOURFUL, QUIET AND
INVITING TO A VARIETY OF
INTERESTS AND PEOPLE —
NOT JUST YOUTH.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS BARRIERS RELATED TO PUBLIC SPACE

- Poor lighting
- Lack of youth-oriented amenities (not designed for youth)
- Noise



POOR LIGHTING

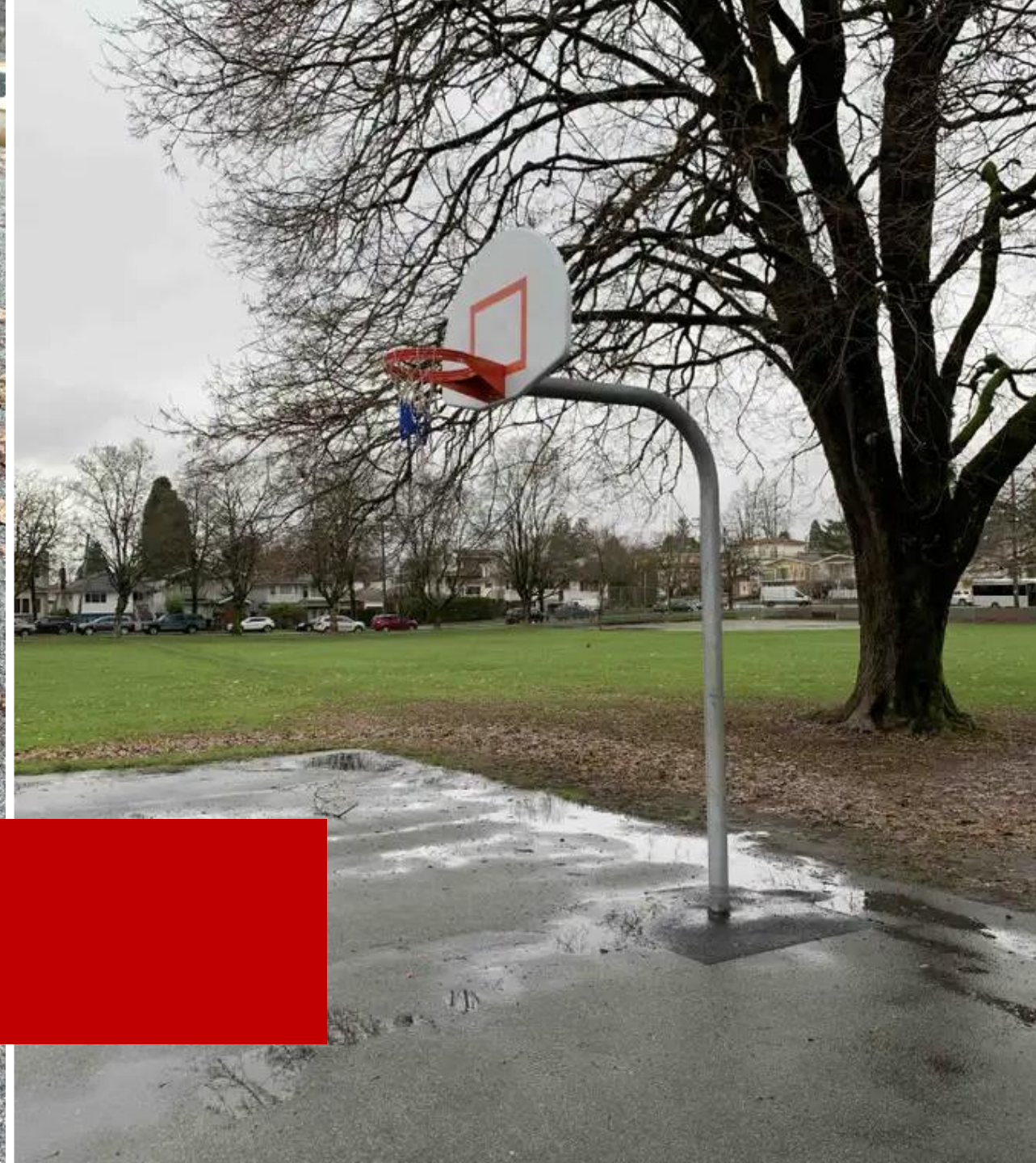


LACK OF YOUTH-ORIENTED AMENITIES





DISREPAIR





VANDALISM



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POOR LIGHTING



LACK OF YOUTH-ORIENTED AMENITIES





NOISE

DESIGN CHALLENGE: PUBLIC SPACE

How might we make public spaces more accessible, fun, functional, and inviting for youth (and for everyone) to connect?

- Better lighting to make public spaces feel safer and more functional
- Add more colour to public spaces through flowers & gardens, art
- More youth-oriented attractions and amenities that meet a variety of interests
- Parks without rec centres should have covered areas or indoor areas
- Amenities (like neighbourhood cafes, food trucks) that exist off the main streets and away from noise and cars

RECAP

- There's a lot to love about South Vancouver.
- Youth in South Van need infrastructure that makes getting around without a car easier, safer, and more enjoyable.
- Lack of upkeep discourages us from connecting in neighbourhood spaces, by making our communities feel unsafe and uninviting
- We want spaces to gather that are natural, colourful, quiet and inviting to a variety of interests and people – not just youth.

THERE'S A LOT TO LOVE
ABOUT SOUTH
VANCOUVER.

DIALOGUE SESSION

ROOMS + THEMES +
FACILITATORS

1:00 - 2:00 pm

THANK YOU
ALL FOR
COMING!!!

RM 304 TRANSPORTATION (JEANNIE)

RM 101 PUBLIC SPACE (LIZA)

RM 101 NEIGHBOURHOOD UPKEEP (MERIDITH)

RM 305 SOCIAL SERVICES (SHELLEY)

RM 305 FOOD ASSETS + INSECURITY (JOEY)

RM 304 HOUSING (PAUL)

