

Thursday, June 23, 2022 | For Immediate Release

Free Bike Valet Pilot Opens in Downtown Victoria

VICTORIA, BC – A free, coat-check style valet service for bicycles, strollers, and other forms of active transportation is opening in downtown Victoria on Friday, June 24, 2022.

The valet service will be staffed and located in a secure, covered zone at City Hall, adjacent to the popular Pandora Avenue cycling route. The service will be free for users and open seven days a week until early November. Initial operating hours are:

- 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday
- 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday
- 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday
- 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday

The service is also anticipated to be open for extended hours for select special events throughout the summer months.

Bicycles, including cargo, recumbent, e-bikes, and adaptive bikes, along with push scooters, strollers and other modes of active transportation are welcome. Users can leave their lights, helmets and panniers that are securely attached. All users will be offered free registration with Project 529 Garage, the bicycle recovery system used by the Victoria Police Department.

“The valet service will offer exceptional convenience and peace of mind for those looking to ride downtown, particularly for families, commuters, and visitors,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “This pilot project is one of the ways we are working to improve bicycle parking, attract new riders and deter bike theft in the City.”

Other initiatives include bike parking upgrades in the Yates Street parkade and the installation of new covered bike shelters at schools and community centres across the municipality this fall.

“Downtown Victoria enjoys a lively and vibrant urban culture and cycling is an important mode of transportation that many of our member’s employees and customers use,” said Jeff Bray, Executive Director of the Downtown Victoria Business Association. “This service will help attract people to shop, dine, visit, and park their bike downtown with confidence.”

Successful public bike valet services can be found in other cities, including in Vancouver at BC Place and Granville Island, and in downtown Portland, Oregon. The pilot will be operated by Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST) and Capital Bike, both of whom have successfully operated bicycle valet services in Vancouver and Victoria.

For more information on the bike valet and bike parking in the City, visit: [Bike Parking | Victoria](#).

For More Information:

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MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

What: Bike Valet Opening

When: Friday, June 24 at 12:30 PM

Where: Bike Valet, City Hall

