



Community Concerns & Demands



Over a period of three months, we surveyed folks in the DTES & groups regarding their concerns with FIFA 2026 coming to their streets. Below is a snapshot of people's concerns & on the next page, their demands & goals. We would like to thank Ayx Community Bus, Chinatown Together, La Boussole, P.O.W.E.R., SWAN Vancouver, VANDU Tuesday Education & Action group, Women Transforming Cities, Yarrow Intergenerational Society for Justice (Yarrow Society), & 50+ individual, who these surveys to their respective communities, memberships, & clients to help us gather responses for this survey.

Immediate Concerns

Displacement



Evictions | Violent Street Sweeps | Throwing Away People's Shelters & Belongings | Pushing Sex Workers into Less Visible & More Dangerous Spaces | Pushing People into Unsafe Emergency Shelters (Warehousing) | Shutting Down of Parks Where People Shelter

Policing, Surveillance & Criminalization



Surveillance Preventing People from Accessing Services | Police Brutality | Police Harassment Against People Who Use Drugs & Sex Workers | Risk of Assault During Arrest

Impacts of Drug Toxicity



Overdoses Deaths as a Result of Drug Users Being Pushed to Use Alone | Tourist of Overdoses | Lack of Safe Supply | Lack of Harm Reduction Spaces & Services

Disappearances



Involuntary Detention Under Mental Health Act | Trumped Up Charges to Sweep People Off the Streets into Jails | Increased Raids Against Migrant Sex Workers & Deportations

Discrimination From Tourists



Gender-Based Violence | Racist Violence/Harassment | Homophobic & Transphobic Violence/Harassment | Violence & Harassment Against People Who Use Drugs | Anti-Poor Violence & Harassment | Abuse & Violence Towards Sex Workers

Disruption of Business, Services & Events



Police Presence Stopping People From Accessing Services (For Example: Sex Workers & Drug Users) | Disruption to Food Bank Access | Seniors' Services & Activities Becoming Inaccessible

Long Term Concerns

Displacement



Increase in Social Housing Rent | Gentrification - Expensive Housing Built to House Athletes that Aren't Affordable After FIFA is Over | Housing crisis worsens

Reduction in Services



Displacement of Services & Small Businesses Serving Low-Income Communities

Policing, Surveillance & Criminalization



Increase in Police Budget & Amount of Surveillance Infrastructure Stays in Place | Expansion of Police Powers & Normalization of Harsher Criminalization | Stricter By-Laws Remaining in Place After FIFA

Lack of Financial Transparency

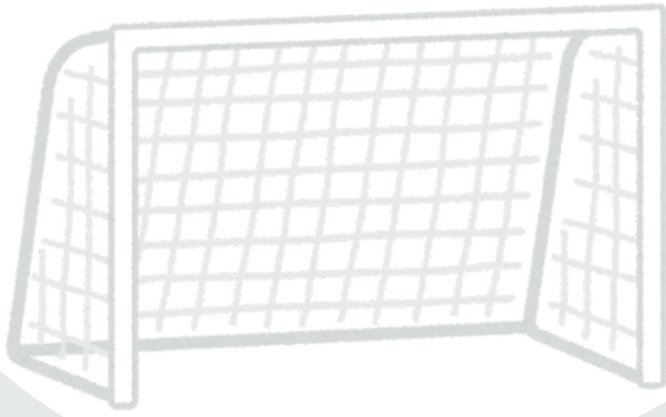


City Will Overspend & Not be Transparent About it | Budget Will Continue to be Oriented Around Policing & 'Public Safety' & Not go Towards Housing, Services, Public Toilets, etc.

Demands & Goals
Next Page



Goals, Demands & Calls to Action



Goals & Demands



Housing

Housing was mentioned by almost every respondent. Some were specific in their demands including:

- Stop the sweeps | Provide temporary shelter with dignified storage of belongings | Create a collaborative relationship with precariously housed & unhouse people | Create more modular housing | Establish a tiny home village by the port



Benefits from FIFA

- Any housing built/provided for athletes, should be prioritized for unhoused & precariously housed communities
- Get FIFA funding for transit, non-profits/grassroots initiatives, covered outdoor seating, public bathrooms
- Prioritize use of profits from FIFA for affected communities not BIAs.



Public Awareness

People who responded explicit stated the need for a variety of public awareness campaigns directed at visitors, including but not limited to:

- Anti-discrimination broadly | anti-racism | gender based discrimination | anti-queer & anti-trans discrimination
- Educate public about their rights as well
- Require these campaigns to be provided in various languages



Engagement & Knowledge Sharing

- Government bodies to engage with people who are precariously housed & unhoused (specially about housing, drug toxicity, washroom availability in the DTES)
- Meet & communicate with frontline organizations so that they aren't kept in the dark about plans where the city thinks people who use drugs, unhoused people, & poor people are allowed to be.



Support Community

People repeatedly stated the need for increased funding for services & supports including but not limited to:

- Anti-gender based violence organizations | Anti-racism & discrimination initiatives | Partnership with various industries to protect workers (including sex workers) | A FIFA funding boost for all the extra work it will require from frontline nonprofits.



Infrastructure

The most mentioned infrastructure demands were on:

- Public washrooms, especially permanent ones at train stations & portable ones in alleyways | Safe consumption/OPS sites | Increased access to transit | Free, public broadcasting of FIFA matches | self sustaining water facilities

“...we're not going to police our way out of the homeless issue, the drug issue, the mental health issue. We need safe, dignified housing.”

Calls to Action -

Below is what respondents said we should work towards providing or demanding for our communities.



- Create reporting hotlines
 - to protect sex workers, people who use drugs & people who are unhoused or housing insecure
- FIFA human rights violation hotline



- Public awareness campaigns with translations
- Public information sharing (insiders report/account of what's actually happening on the ground by community members)



- Partnership with various industries to protect workers
- Mutual aid redistribution for sex workers, unhoused people & PWUD
- Increase distribution of cooling kits
- Increase availability of tap water
- Money needed for replacement tents, tarps, & sheltering materials



- Legal observing & cop watch
- Local & community reporters
- Alert system or notifications about heavy police presence or crackdowns
- Organize resistance to disproportionate petty ticketing & criminalization in the DTES
- Support P.O.W.E.R in collecting more police data



- Protest against FIFA
- Non-violent direct action
- Targeted FIFA boycott
- Signs down main & hastings.

“If there will be any new spaces created for FIFA, those spaces after FIFA should be turned into community centres or another form of public space for people to use.”