

### Purpose

- Maintain a safe, functional and well-preserved Gage Park Fountain by completing planned lifecycle repairs.
- Address end-of-life waterproofing materials to prevent further deterioration and avoid more extensive future repairs.
- Protect a valued heritage feature and extend its service life through proactive maintenance.

### Background

- The Gage Park Fountain was last restored in 2014. The waterproof coating applied at that time has reached the end of its expected lifespan after approximately 12 years of exposure to constant water, UV light, weather and routine maintenance.
- This type of deterioration is expected for fountain infrastructure and requires periodic reapplication of waterproofing to maintain performance and prevent structural damage.

### Key Messages

- Residents will continue to benefit from a safe and well-maintained Gage Park Fountain as planned repairs and waterproofing work take place from June 2026 to August 2026.
- The fountain is being proactively maintained to address normal wear and extend the life of an important heritage feature.
- The fountain will be temporarily out of service during construction, with the water feature turned off for the duration of the work.
- Access around the fountain and watercourse will be restricted for public safety while work is underway.
- The project includes the use of a more durable waterproofing material designed to better withstand water, UV exposure and weather conditions.

### Supporting Messages

#### Project Scope and Impacts

- Work includes removal of deteriorated waterproofing, concrete crack and weir repairs and application of a new waterproof coating.
- The fountain will be closed and not running during June, July and early August 2026.
- Temporary fencing will be installed around the construction zone and access along nearby concrete pathways will be restricted.
- Other areas of Gage Park will remain open to the public during construction.

### Materials & Durability Improvements

- The new waterproofing material is a more durable, industrial-grade product.
- The change from blue to grey reflects the use of this improved material, which is designed for longer-term performance under constant exposure to water and UV light.

### Questions & Answers

#### **Q1. Why is this work necessary? Wasn't the Gage Park fountain just redone?**

**A1.** The Gage Park fountain was restored in 2014 and the waterproof coating installed at that time has now reached the end of its expected lifespan. This type of maintenance is typically required every 12 years due to constant water exposure, UV light, routine cleaning and natural wear.

#### **Q2. Does this mean the previous restoration failed?**

**A2.** No. The need for reapplication is expected lifecycle maintenance. Waterproofing materials naturally deteriorate over time in fountain environments and require periodic renewal to maintain performance.

#### **Q3. Why did the waterproofing colour change from blue to grey?**

**A3.** The colour change is due to a new, more durable industrial-grade waterproofing product. It is better suited to withstand water exposure, UV light and wear and provides improved long-term performance.

#### **Q4. When will the fountain be back on?**

**A4.** The Gage Park fountain is expected to return to service in August 2026.

#### **Q5. Will access to Gage Park be affected?**

**A5.** The fountain will be fenced off during construction and nearby pathways around the watercourse will be restricted. Other areas of Gage Park will remain open for public use.

### Interview best practices

- **Blocking & Bridging:**
  - “That’s an interesting idea, however what’s important to remember is...”
  - “Thanks for bringing up that point... Actually, the reason we’re here today is...”
  - “If what you’re really asking me is...”
  - “Another element to consider is...”
  
- **Bridging Connectors:**
  - “Let me take a step back...”
  - “What’s important to understand is...”
  - “The reason we’re here today is...”
  - “The primary focus is...”
  - “I’d like to highlight that...”
  - “It’s interesting you mention that because...”
  
- **Flagging:**
  - “If there is one thought I can leave you with today, it’s this...”
  - “The most important thing for you to remember is...”
  - “I’ve talked about many issues today. It boils down to these three things...”