

About the producer

Andy Longhurst is a graduate student at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC studying urban social geography. He is the past CiTR News Director and has volunteered at CiTR in various capacities for over four years. He is interested in the intersection of journalism, social justice, and urban space and politics.

About the program

Established in 2012, *The City* is a weekly one-hour radio program and podcast produced in Vancouver on unceded Coast Salish territory. Each week, the program provides an alternative look at our changing urban spaces. The program features news, interviews, discussions, documentaries, and music with a Vancouver focus and progressive analysis. The program showcases critical discussions of the people, politics, policies, and processes shaping urban geographies – on issues ranging from gentrification to indigenous rights, food security, economic change, urban social movements, and much more.

In June, the City of Vancouver planning staff released the draft community plan for East Vancouver's Grandview-Woodland neighbourhood. To the shock of many residents who were extensively involved in the consultation process, the City is proposing to upzone substantial parts of the neighbourhood including approximately ten 22-36 storey towers in the Broadway and Commercial area. These proposed changes raise important questions about the preservation of existing affordable housing stock and the implications of major condominium tower development on the social fabric of the neighbourhood. Has community trust in the planning process been eroded with these surprising land-use directions? Where did these directions originate from if not from community consultation?