

Broadway Avenue Construction Notice: July 21st, 2025

If you have been down to Broadway recently, you will notice some construction in front of École Victoria, where the City of Saskatoon is working on the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System.

Unfortunately, the project has been delayed, and we were informed of the full impact on our event late last week. The main Fringe site won't be significantly impacted, but we will lose two lanes of the block in front of École Victoria on the long weekend, as they are unable to move it or accommodate us.

Other than the construction infringing (get it) on our space, we want to reassure you all that the Festival is going well, ticket sales are strong, and we're looking forward to celebrating another Fringe with you all.

To our patrons: We thank you for your patience during this time. This is a difficult situation that has been imposed on our Fringe staff, volunteers, and artists. Thankfully, our Fringe community is resilient and is handling this speed bump with grace.

Whilst we are excited about the improvements being made to public transit in our city, we are saddened by the construction's presence after our team has worked so hard to bring you another great event.

We've included some key information below to address any questions you may have. For now, please take this as an opportunity to show our vendors and performers some extra love so they know that Saskatoon values their work and wants them to continue to return year after year.

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to the City of Saskatoon at 306-975-2476.

Thanks for Fringing with us,

Philippa Williams

Festival Manager

FAQs:

1. Where is the construction?

The construction is located on Broadway Avenue across the two northbound lanes between 11th Street E and 12th Street E in front of École Victoria.

2. How long will the construction take?

The BRT project has been unable to provide exact information on a timeline, but the prediction is anywhere from 4-6 weeks or more.

3. What was the delay?

The construction in front of École Victoria was originally scheduled from July 2nd to July 27th. Due to a supply chain issue, it was unable to begin until July 14th and now anticipates overlapping the entire Fringe Festival (July 31 - Aug 9).

4. Will the construction be active at the Fringe?

We've been informed that construction may occur 7 days a week from 7 AM to 10 PM.

5. Can construction be paused during public Fringe hours?

The BRT project managers have denied our request to alter any construction hours. Construction may stop in the evenings and weekends however, it is not a guarantee and is solely at the discretion of the contractors.

6. What will the impact be on the Fringe?

The impact on our event is largely a reduction in our site footprint and our ability to accommodate more artists/vendors. There is also a potential noise risk, and sadly, a large visual impact in that area.

7. How noisy will the construction be?

The BRT project team has been unable to give us any further information on sound levels. However, in speaking with businesses undergoing similar impacts with construction on Broadway Ave. and around the city, we hope the noise levels will be minimal.

8. Could the Fringe move sites?

Unfortunately, due to the timeline in which we received the news of the construction and the true extent of its impact on the Fringe, we could not accommodate a site move.

9. What does this mean for the Fringe in the long term?

This means that in the future, public transit to the site will be improved for our entire community. But for now, we urge Saskatoon patrons to bring cash to the site and support the artists so that they are not financially impacted by the construction and are encouraged to keep coming back to the Fringe.