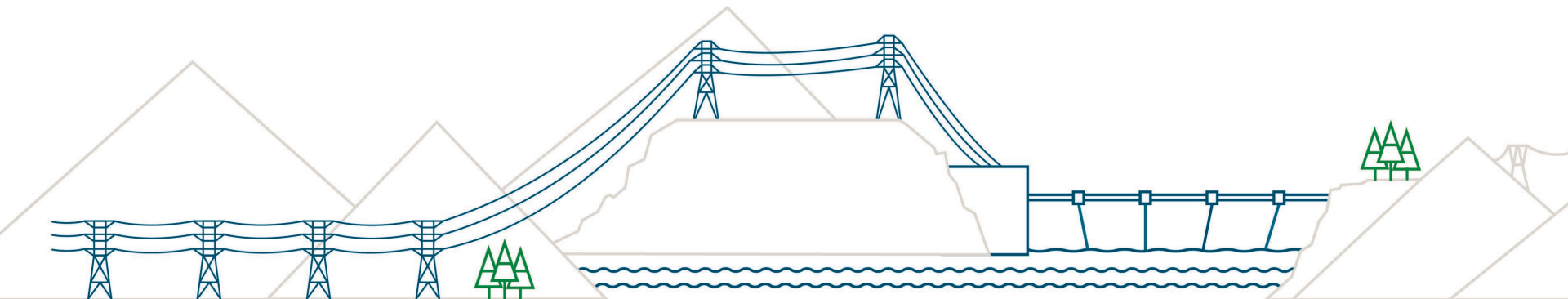


BOMA – Downtown Vancouver Update



October 2020

Introductions



Aaron Ellis

Manager,
Distribution Planning - Lower
Mainland



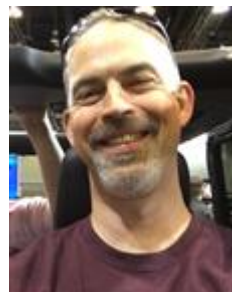
Elin Aasen

Sector Lead
Key Account Manager



Ed Howker

Regional Manager
Distribution Operations



Roy Siebold

Program Manager
PCM Capital Projects Operations

Agenda

1. Downtown Redevelopment Plan

- Substation additions and upgrades in downtown
- Upgrade of downtown voltages – 12kV to 25kV conversion
- Upgrades to the dual radial system serving key downtown buildings

2. H-Frame Removal Program Update – Chinatown and Gastown

3. Challenges and opportunities

4. Round table discussion

Downtown Redevelopment Plan

Downtown Vancouver: Then and Now



Downtown Vancouver Redevelopment Plan

Issues:

- **New, Larger, Customer Connections**
 - Building Sizes Increasing
 - Underground Equipment Congestion
- **Aging Equipment**
 - Underground Oil Filled Equipment
 - Substations – Two are over 50 years old
- **Reliability Risk**
 - Existing Dual Radial System lacks flexibility
 - 2008 CSQ Manhole Fire
- **Safety**
 - Overhead Contact – H-Frames
 - Crew Safety in Customer Vaults

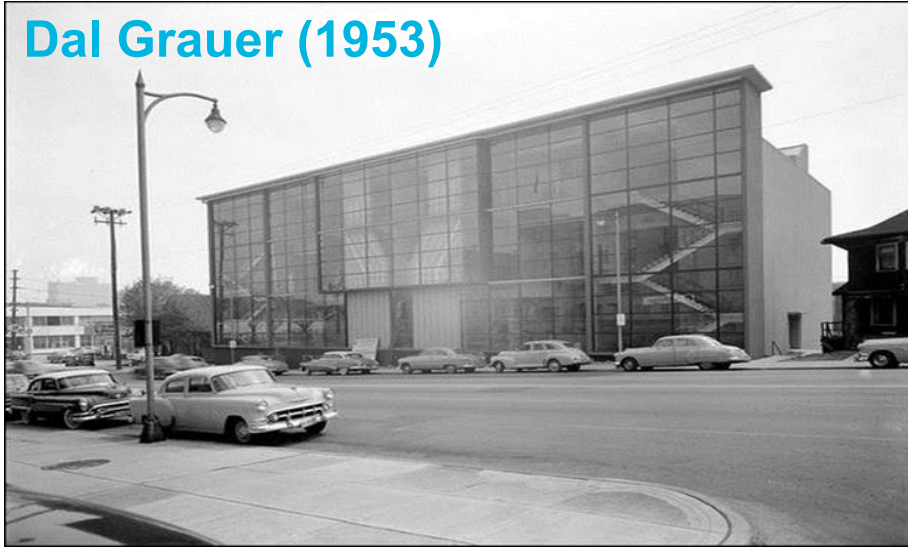


Strategy:

- Eliminate/remove H-frame structures in narrow lanes
- Move from 12 kV towards a 25 kV Distribution System
- Move towards a 25 kV Open Loop U/G Distribution System
- Move towards an Automated Distribution System

Downtown Substations

Dal Grauer (1953)



Murrin (1947)



Downtown Substations

Cathedral Square (1984) – First Underground Substation



West End Substation

Planning for future growth.



- NEW Underground Substation
- Replaces the Dal Grauer Substation built in 1954
- 10 year timeframe
- **25 kV** Distribution Voltage

Why 25kV in Downtown Vancouver?

Serve Twice the Load with the Same Equipment as Today

Benefits:

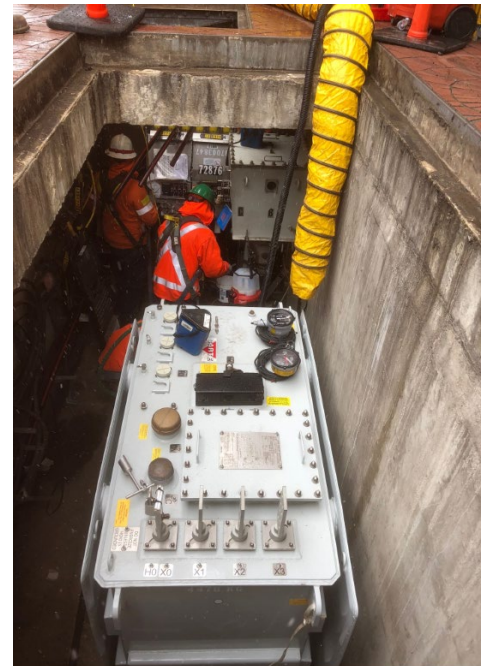
- **Reduced footprint** - Less congestion in the underground street corridors
- **Increased utilization** of electrical equipment (lowers costs to serve)
- **Enables Larger Customer Loads** (for bigger buildings, EV Charging, electrification)

Opportunities:

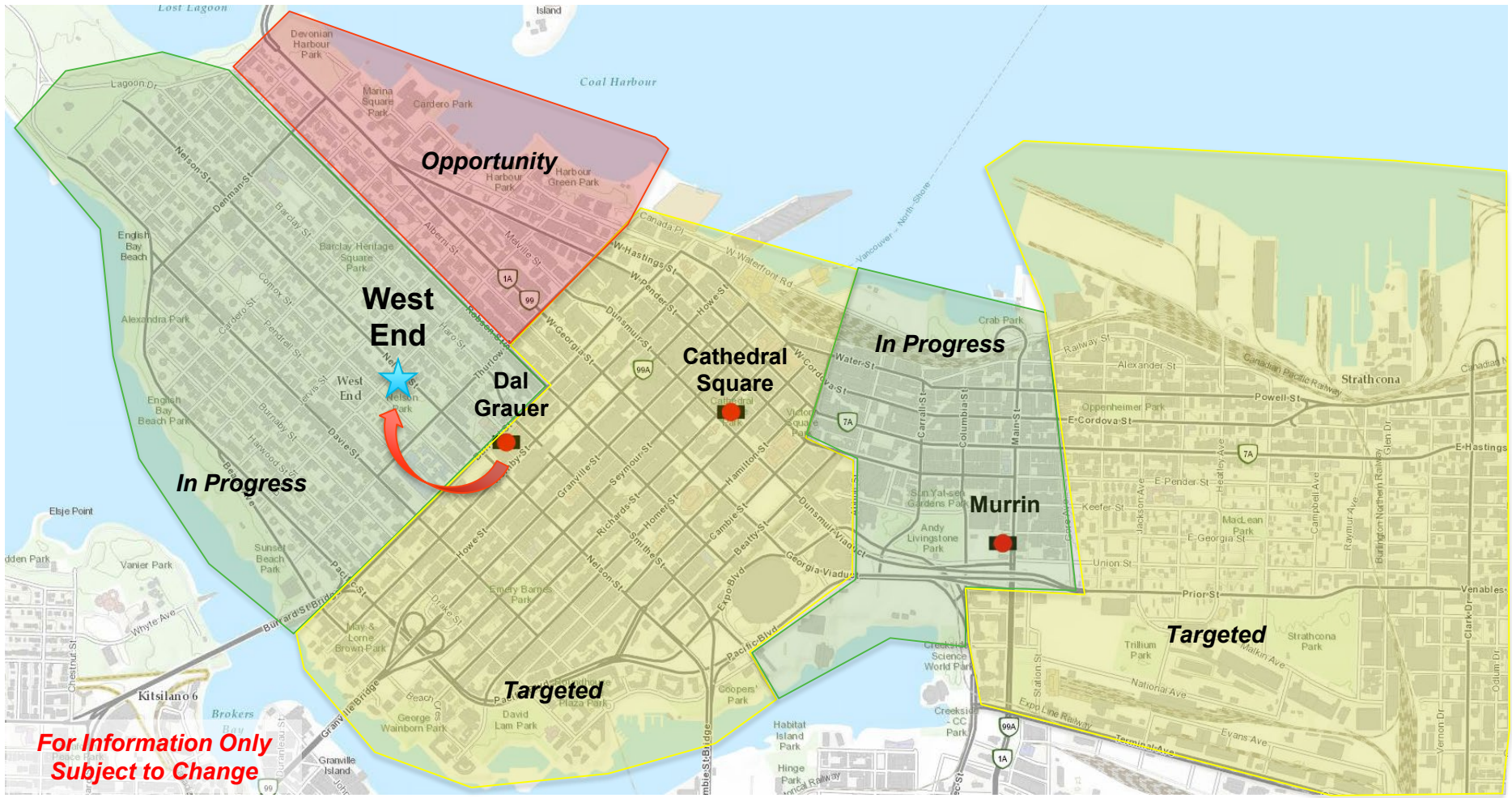
- **Replace end of life equipment** with 25 kV equipment
 - BC Hydro equipment at end of life
 - Customer end of life electrical vaults
- All buildings designed after 2010 are ready for 25 kV
- New Substation construction

Customer Impacts:

- Customer Vault Conversions
- Outages to switch voltages



Map of Voltage Conversion



Customer Vault Conversion

- Primary side equipment will need to be upgraded to 25kV (switchgear)
- Transformers will be required to be dual voltage to operate at current 12kV until 25kV system is in place
- Sometimes modifications to the electrical room may be required to accommodate new clearance requirements and equipment for higher voltage.
- Some customers with small electrical load may have the option to convert to a secondary voltage (600 V).
- *Secondary equipment not impacted (lights, receptacles, building distribution etc.)*



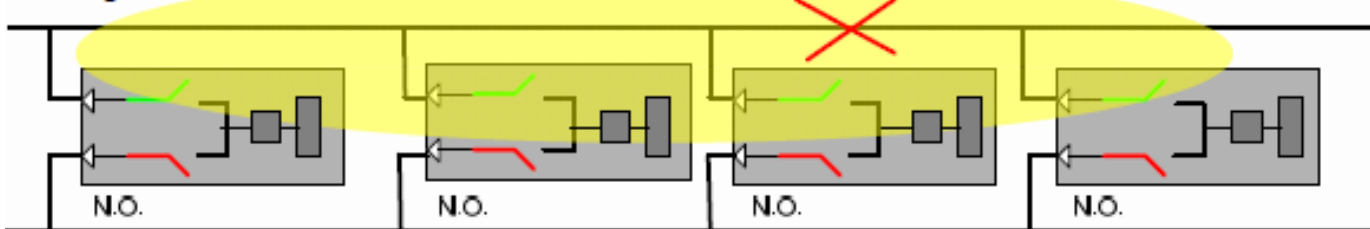
System Configuration Changes

Dual Radial System to Open Loop conversion.

Dual Radial Challenges:

- Long Outage Restoration Time
- High Volume of Manual Switching / Availability of Stand-by
- Safety and Access Issues
 - BC Hydro personnel operates customer owned and maintained switches
 - Safety a major issue for poorly maintained or aging equipment
 - Arc Flash

Running Circuit



Standby Circuit



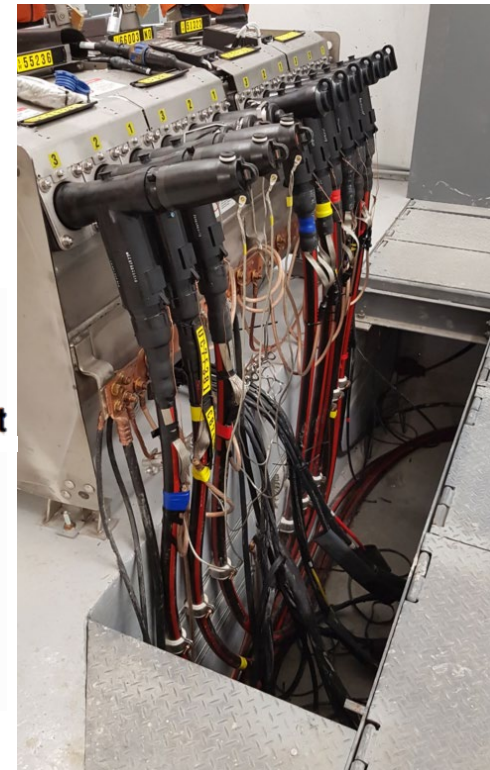
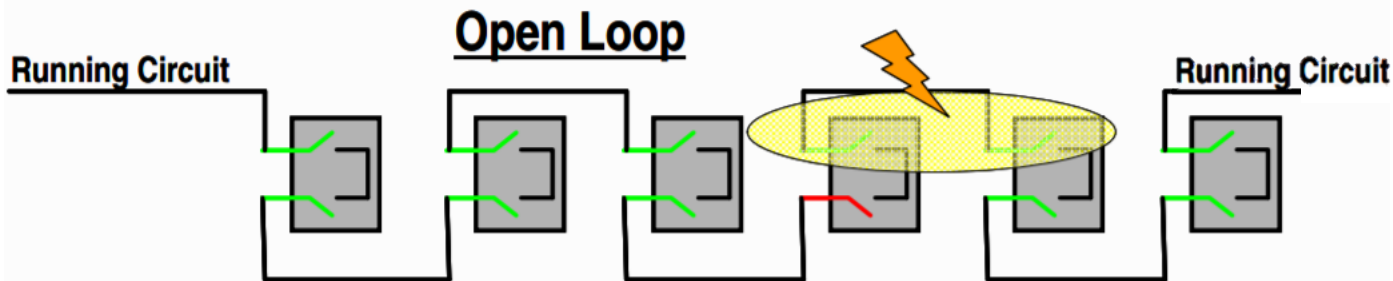
4-6 Hours



Open Loop

Open Loop Benefits

- **Fast Restoration Times**
 - Automatic detection and isolation of faults
 - Automated switching to restore power
- **Safety**
 - BC Hydro operating BC Hydro owned equipment
 - BC hydro equipment design for Arc Flash safety
- **Access** - BC Hydro control of switchgear location
 - Dedicated BC Hydro switchgear room in buildings (*in dense areas*)
 - Dedicated BC Hydro vault in the street (*where street space is available*)



H-Frame Removal Program Update

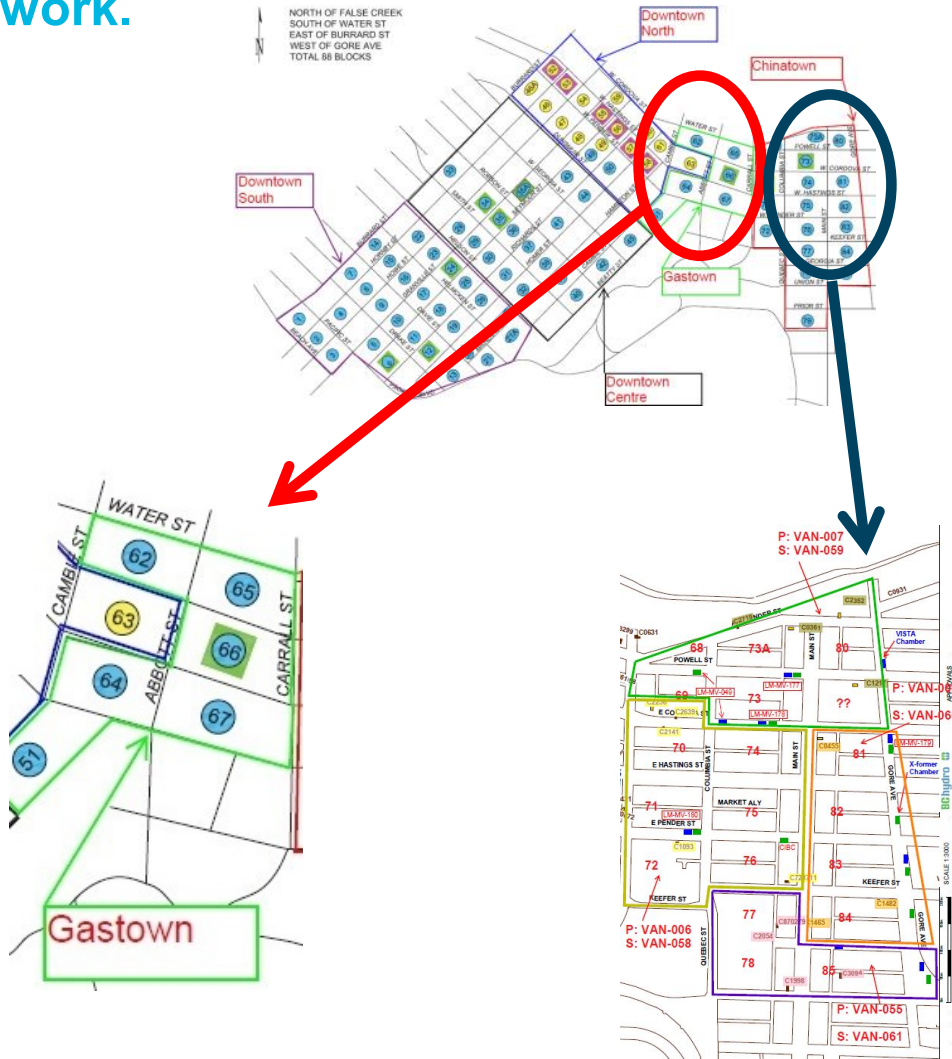
H-Frame Program – Chinatown

Start and End Goal



H-Frame Program – Chinatown & Gastown

Where is the work.



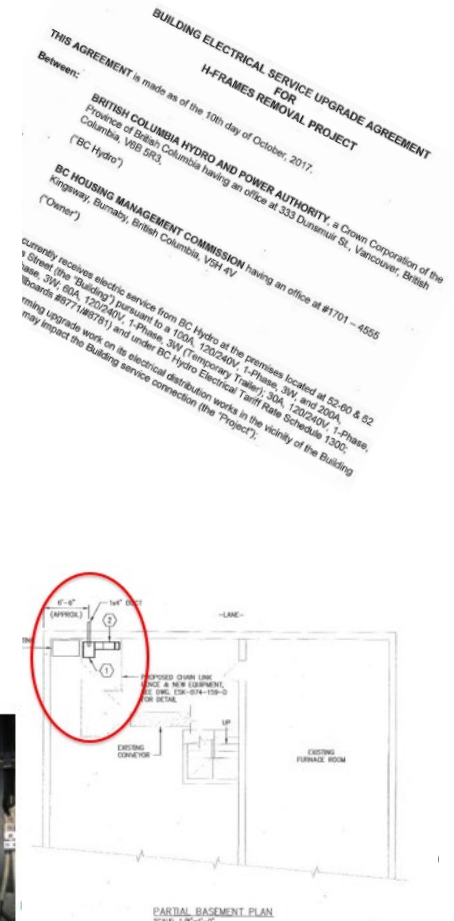
H-Frame Program – Chinatown & Gastown

What has to be built.

In street/sidewalk



In lanes



Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges and Opportunities

- Challenges
 - Building owner care and understanding for BCH crews
 - Dual Radial vault database – keeping contacts updated for maintenance
 - New construction or redevelopments
- Opportunities
 - Manhole clean-up, street congestion
 - Street level kiosks
 - Benefits for voltage conversion and open loop

How can BOMA help

- Existing Buildings - work together to minimize impact to building occupants
 - Inform BC Hydro of impending renovations to existing buildings
 - Inform BC Hydro of scheduled maintenance of electrical equipment
 - Inform BC Hydro of planned equipment replacement and choose equipment with consultation with BC Hydro
- New Buildings - design to accommodate new electrical equipment requirements
 - Customer electrical equipment space
 - BC Hydro equipment space
 - Locate equipment for ease of accessibility

BC Hydro has been working on

- Voltage Conversion website
 - Includes a webform to ask questions or get in touch with our Key Account Managers for voltage conversion
- Discussions with the City of Vancouver ongoing
- Discussions with the External Design Community ongoing

Roundtable Discussion

