

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Vancouver Residents to Receive Proposed Land Use Changes Notifications

VANCOUVER, BC - (May 20, 2015) PlaceSpeak announced today the launch of a new, free service, which allows residents to be notified online about proposed land use changes within their immediate neighbourhoods. PlaceSpeak will use its unique 'geolocation' process to send notifications directly to registered residents. This follows on the premier launch with the [City of Victoria](#) last week.

In 2014, Open Data BC conducted a survey of the the [10 Most Wanted Municipal Datasets in Canada](#). Accordingly, PlaceSpeak focused its efforts on three of those datasets namely: 1. Rezoning permit applications; 2. Land use changes, and; 3. Development permit applications. PlaceSpeak has initially prioritized these datasets, but plans to add other types of notifications for delivery to residents according to their location and preferences.

"Keeping residents informed is the first step toward a more engaged community", says PlaceSpeak's founder and CEO, Colleen Hardwick. "People are always complaining that they have not been notified or consulted about relevant issues in their neighbourhoods, and PlaceSpeak will change all that with its citizen-centric approach, allowing residents to choose how and when they are notified online".

According to PlaceSpeak product manager Hugh Stimson, "The City of Vancouver is among the best we've seen at publishing really detailed, useful information about proposed developments. But experience suggests that citizens don't know to go looking for that kind of data on municipal websites. This system adds relevancy to the City's good work by delivering the same info in a timely, hyperlocal, effortless way."

City of Vancouver residents can sign up for PlaceSpeak at www.placespeak.com.

About PlaceSpeak

PlaceSpeak is a location-based public consultation platform. Its mission is to authenticate the online consultation process in an open, transparent, verifiable, and defensible manner. It solves the problem of how to consult with people online within specific geographical boundaries. PlaceSpeak has been developed with the support of the [National Research Council of Canada IRAP](#) program.



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