



Tell me more about the Replacement Bridge

- ✓ green transportation
- ✓ fiscally responsible
- ✓ more accessible
- ✓ improved safety

The Johnson Street Replacement Bridge reflects the values and amenities stated as important by Victoria citizens. It is a vital transportation link to downtown and the time has come for a significant investment to ensure the link meets the needs of our community now and in the future.

The new bridge includes green transportation options:

- The new Johnson Street Bridge is designed to provide improved alternative transportation options to reduce our dependence on cars and subsequent greenhouse gas emissions.
- There will be dedicated cycle lanes on both sides of the bridge deck. Cyclists will also be able to use a new multi-use trail to cross the bridge that connects to the Galloping Goose trail and E & N trails.
- There will be a dedicated pedestrian deck (lowered and separated from traffic) which will provide the walking public with a safer and more pleasant experience when crossing the bridge.
- The entire bridge project has been subject to a triple bottom line analysis. That includes an emphasis on the environment, in addition to fiscal and social elements. The City will explore the possibility of reusing or recycling the current Johnson Street Bridge once it is decommissioned.

- Research clearly indicates that one of the most significant ways of reducing our community's greenhouse gas emissions is to reduce our reliance on cars and to walk or cycle instead. Cycling as a primary mode of travel is expected to grow in the coming years.
- In terms of community values for bridge options, an Ipsos Reid poll noted residents placed the greatest importance on having a dedicated pedestrian walkway and dedicated bike lanes.

The new bridge is designed to improve public safety:

- On-street bike lanes and improved alignment on both sides of the bridge with a new signal at Harbour and Esquimalt Road will improve safety for cyclists and cars on the road.
- Road approaches will include traffic calming tools and landscaping. The current 30/km speed limit for motorists will remain.

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Designing a Landmark Bridge: Meet the Architects

Victoria Conference Centre
Monday, October 25
 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

The Big Picture: Why Borrowing Makes Good Sense

Victoria City Hall
Wednesday, November 3
 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Guided Tours of Johnson Street Bridge

Saturday, October 23
Saturday, November 6
 Space is limited. Please call 250.361.0288 to register.

Johnson Street Bridge Open House: Have questions? We have answers

Victoria City Hall
Saturday, November 13
 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Learn Why Replacing the Bridge is the Sustainable Option

Victoria City Hall
Wednesday, November 17
 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

The new bridge is designed to improve public safety:

- The safety of the travelling public is top of mind. The bridge will be upgraded to a lifeline structure able to withstand an 8.5 magnitude earthquake – the highest standard of earthquake protection – to ensure the safety of users, disaster response capability, protection of investment and post-disaster recovery.
- Victoria is located in the most active seismic zone in Canada and recent studies have indicated that there is a 30–35% probability of a major earthquake occurring in Victoria within the next 50 years.
- Traffic pinch points, such as the “S” curve will be eliminated which will improve safety and reduce possible conflicts between cars and cyclists.
- A new road surface will make the bridge less slippery and intimidating for cyclists, and provide a much safer crossing.
- In a recent representative Ipsos Reid Community Poll, 80% of residents said that improving the safety of the road approaches on the west and east side of the bridge was important.

The new bridge will be a world-class landmark:

- Designed by renowned bridge architects, Wilkinson Eyre, the replacement design is one of a kind and will be the first bridge in the world where you can walk through the rolling mechanism while the bridge raises.
- The bridge was designed to meet the Old Town Guidelines for the historic district it is located in and respects the history of the area and surrounding heritage designated buildings.



The new bridge improves accessibility:

- The new Johnson Street Bridge will be more accessible for people with mobility issues and will include a widened sidewalk for wheelchairs, strollers and pedestrians.
- A wide multi-use path will accommodate pedestrians, cyclists and those with mobility devices.
- The grating found on the current bridge will be eliminated. The walkway and multi-use path will be wider, smoother and safer for people who have mobility issues, use mobility aids or have reduced vision.
- In addition, the curves and grades will be reduced in the approaches to the bridge, making it much easier to access the new bridge.
- In a recent representative Ipsos Reid Community Poll, 89% of residents said that increasing accessibility for wheelchairs, scooters, strollers and the visually impaired is important.

Borrowing is the fiscally responsible way to address the Johnson Street Bridge:

- Based on extensive public input Victoria City Council has decided to borrow up to \$49.2 million for the project as it is the most prudent method of covering the costs.
- The total project cost for a replacement bridge is estimated at \$77 million and has a federal contribution commitment for \$21 million. The City has reprioritized other budgetary expenditures to take advantage of the bridge construction period, which further reduces the funds needed to borrow.
- The City will secure the best rates available and by reducing borrowing to \$49.2 million there will be no tax increase or need to spend cash reserves.
- The City of Victoria continues to look for other funding partners to further reduce costs to Victoria taxpayers.
- The new bridge – built to modern day engineering standards – will reduce on-going maintenance costs.
- The new Johnson Street Bridge will be built for the next 100 years and will improve safety and amenities for all users.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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