



Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project

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

After extensive public consultation, City Council decided to replace the aging Johnson Street Bridge. A referendum on November 20, 2010 will ask Victoria voters for permission to borrow \$49.2 million to replace the bridge.

City Council made its decision after considering many factors including safety, accessibility, improved pedestrian and cycling amenities, heritage values, sustainability and traffic and business disruption. These factors have been identified by Victorians as important for the future of a major transportation link.

The new Johnson Street Bridge will improve safety, increase alternate transportation options, and enhance accessibility for walkers, strollers, and those with mobility aids.

How were the project needs determined?

The new Johnson Street Bridge reflects the values and amenities confirmed as important by Victoria citizens. Additional public input recently collected through the Ipsos Reid surveys, Official Community Plan and the Downtown Core Area Plan notes a clear desire for greener modes of transportation.

Why is this project the City's highest infrastructure priority?

The Johnson Street Bridge is a vital transportation link to downtown. Engineering studies have determined that the current condition of the bridge must be addressed to avoid potential closure within a few years, an unplanned closure due to failure of mechanical and electrical systems, or collapse in a major seismic event.

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Costs

Total Project Cost:	\$77 million
Confirmed Federal funding.....	\$21 million
City budget reprioritization.....	\$6.8 million
Borrowing	\$49.2 million
Tax increase	0%
Construction Timeline	4 years
Traffic Disruption	Minimal
Economic impact to downtown.....	Minimal
100 year maintenance costs	\$22 million (2010 dollars)

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.

Why is this project the City's highest infrastructure priority? (continued)

The time has come for a significant investment to ensure the crossing continues to meet the needs of our community now and in the future. If nothing is done to address the Johnson Street Bridge it will face closure.

Recent economic impact studies forecast the impact of a full bridge closure to be over \$13 million a year to downtown businesses. Due to the economic impact a long term closure of the bridge would have on downtown, something must be done. A closure would also increase traffic volumes on other routes and some routes would need to be upgraded.

A replacement bridge can be built to the north of the bridge, allowing the current bridge to stay open while the new one is built.

If the referendum succeeds the City will borrow up to \$49.2 million to fund the Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project. The City will secure the best rates available, and by borrowing, there will be no need to raise taxes or spend cash reserves.

What will happen if the referendum fails?

This is not a "nice-to-do" project. Closing the bridge would have an economic impact of over \$13 million to downtown businesses every year that it is closed. Significant work is required to address the aging Johnson Street Bridge and protect this vital transportation corridor from closure. If permission to borrow funds is defeated, City Council will have to consider funding the project through tax increases and/or spending reserve funds.

When is the referendum?

The referendum will be held on **Saturday, November 20, 2010**. The referendum on borrowing to replace the Johnson Street Bridge will occur at the same time as the by-election for a vacant City Councillor position.

For more information about voting in the referendum and by-election being held at the same time go to www.victoria.ca and click on "2010 Council By-Election and Bylaw Referendum" in the *Quicklinks Box*.



Project Scope

- 1 Elimination of "S" curve and install traffic signal
- 2 Multi-use trail with connection to Galloping Goose/E&N Rail Trail
- 3 Pedestrian sidewalk with connections to adjacent pathways
- 4 Consolidated green space
- 5 Improved navigation channel in accordance with current regulations
- 6 Main bridge with three lanes and on street bike lanes
Designed as a traffic calmed corridor
- 7 Integrated with planned Harbour Pathway
- 8 Improved downtown approaches including sidewalks along west side of Wharf Street
- 9 Establish trail head for Galloping Goose/Trans Canada Trail

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project

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