

From: Mike Lai
Sent: December 15, 2011 4:02 PM
To: Mayor (Dean Fortin); Councillors
Cc: Gail Stephens; Peter Sparanese; Kevin Greig; Katie Josephson; Jaime Matten
Subject: JSB Project Monthly Update

Dear Mayor and Council,

This is to provide an update on the Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project for the month of December. The next update to the Governance and Priorities Committee will take place in January.

A number of activities are underway as work proceeds on the Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project. Last month, the contract for pre-construction work was awarded to Ruskin Construction Ltd. This work includes the removal of the rail span, 500 ton counterweight, and relocation of communication lines in the harbour serving Victoria West, Esquimalt and the Department of National Defence.

Contractors are now onsite and the communication line work will be completed first as in-water marine work is limited to certain times of the year. The rail bridge and counterweight will be removed in mid-February.

Telus is currently working with their contractor on the west side of the bridge to complete in-ground work and trenching associated with the relocation of the communication lines. Telus work on the east side of the bridge will commence in the next couple of weeks.

Approximately 20 people will be working onsite with Ruskin Construction totalling 18,000 worker-hours over the next four months. This is in addition to City staff and Telus contractor work. Ruskin Construction has hired several local subcontractors including Castor Consultants, Don Mann Excavating, Hugh Tuttle, and Ralmax.

Staff will work closely with the contractor to ensure that marine users, neighbouring businesses, residents and those who will be affected by construction are kept informed and potential impacts are mitigated. There are no immediate traffic impacts expected. In accordance with Transport Canada, a detailed Marine Communication Plan has been developed and will ensure that marine users are kept informed of all work.

Esquimalt and Harbour Road Signal Crossing

City crews are completing the installation of a new temporary pedestrian / cyclist signal crossing at the intersection of Esquimalt and Harbour Roads. The push-button activated signal will make it easier and safer for pedestrians to connect between Harbour Road and the sidewalk on the south side of the bridge and for cyclists to access the bridge from the roadway. The new signal is expected to be in operation by the third week of December. Once in operation, the current detour over the rail overpass will become a construction area.

Public Information

Staff are meeting with the Victoria West Community Association Land Use Committee in January to discuss the guiding design principles (approved by Council in October) in more detail. In early 2012, the City will host a design workshop with the Victoria community to collect feedback on design elements such as landscaping, accessibility for cyclists, pedestrians and those with mobility challenges.

In November, the City launched an online eNews to provide regular email updates to the public. Project information will continue to be available to the public through the project website www.JohnsonStreetBridge.com, project web cam, the City's Facebook and Twitter accounts,

project email johnsonstreetbridge@victoria.ca and by working with local media to keep a wide range of stakeholders and citizens informed.
Should you require any clarification or additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike C. Lai, P. Eng.
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