

From: Mike Lai
Sent: Thursday, Jan 19, 2012 3:26 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 January. The next update to the Governance and Priorities Committee will take place in late February.

Telus Duct Relocation

Over the past few weeks, there has been a lot of in-water activity related to the relocation of communication lines at the bottom of the harbour.

Ten excavators were involved in moving a large bundle of new pipes from the west side across the harbour towards the east side. Two large barges, an excavator and divers worked to carefully submerge the new pipe lines down into the harbour bed. The navigation channel to the north of the bridge was closed for three days while this work was underway. Traffic on the road bridge was not affected. The contractor and City worked closely with all marine users and the Harbour Master regarding the limited navigation channel access.

The City's contractor is nearing completion of the relocation work. Once complete, Telus and their contractor will continue to be onsite to complete the extensive work involved with replacing the new communication lines which service Victoria West, Esquimalt and the Department of National Defence.

Rail Bridge

Starting next month, the rail bridge and 500 tonne counterweight will be secured in preparation for dismantling. The rail bridge will be separated from the counterweight and carefully removed by a large crane and barge. The road bridge will continue to remain open; however, minor delays and short term closures may be required to accommodate the need to move materials or equipment.

Esquimalt and Harbour Road Signal Crossing

In December City crews completed the installation of a new pedestrian / cyclist signal crossing at the intersection of Esquimalt and Harbour Roads. The new signal crossing replaces the previous route off Harbour Road over the rail overpass, which is now a construction area. The detour will remain in place until the new Johnson Street Bridge is complete and open to traffic in 2016.

Public Information

Staff are meeting with the Victoria West Community Association Land Use Committee in February (January meeting was cancelled due to snow) to discuss the guiding design principles in more detail and discuss plans for a community workshop to take place in April. The City hosted workshop will be open to all members of the public and will be designed to collect feedback on specific elements of the public realm such as landscaping features, plaza space and seating etc.

The City will continue to provide regular updates to the public through the subscriber eNews, project website www.JohnsonStreetBridge.com, 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.

Please find attached a few photos which show some of the work that has been underway.

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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