Shelbourne Street Improvement Project

Phase 2 FAQs



Q. What's happening?

A. Construction will begin August 2, 2022 on phase two of the District of Saanich's Shelbourne Street Improvements Project (SSIP) from North Dairy Road to Elm Street.

This phase will also see the addition of the new UVic bike connector among many other active transportation and infrastructure upgrades, including protected cycle tracks and underground utilities.

Q. Why is Saanich doing this work?

A. The goal of this project is to improve Shelbourne Street for all users, while making significant upgrades to underground utilities, the streetscape and the road surface. Shelbourne Street will be more welcoming for people to come to for shopping, services, dining and recreational activities.

The majority of the work includes renewing aging critical infrastructure. These short-term improvements will immediately benefit those who use Shelbourne while the more extensive longer-term improvements in the 30-year vision for the Shelbourne Valley unfold and take shape.

Q. When will construction start and end?

A. Construction of this phase begins on August 2, 2022 and is expected to take approximately 24 months. Phase three construction is expected to begin in 2024. Phase one was completed in early July.

Q. What disruptions can the public expect?

A. Disruptions should be expected, such as traffic delays, increased noise and dust, and occasional scheduled service interruptions during installation of new water and sewer lines.

Residents and businesses near the area have been notified of any construction impacts. Construction updates and information about traffic disruptions will be shared on saanich.ca, Facebook @Saanich.BC and on Twitter @Saanich.

We apologize for any inconvenience anyone may experience as a result of this work.

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Q. What about traffic? Will drivers, pedestrians and cyclists be accommodated?

A. Wherever possible, we will work to minimize traffic delays. Commuters are also encouraged to take alternate routes, where possible.

Along Shelbourne Street, there will be at least one through lane open in each direction at all times. There may be some special situations where longer delays or additional lane closures are required and these will be carefully planned to take place at times when the impact will be minimized.

We will keep the public informed of ongoing and planned lane closures to ensure there are no surprises and everyone can plan their travel accordingly. Cyclists and pedestrians will also be accommodated during construction.

Q. Will any trees need to be removed?

A. After many years of consultation, the final project plan ensures that the number of trees that need to be removed is as few as possible. For every tree that must be removed three will be replanted within the project area or elsewhere in Saanich, as per the Tree Protection Bylaw.

Although the London Plane trees along Shelbourne Street were not part of the original memorial tree plantation, Saanich acknowledges that these trees hold a historical significance for the community. We remain committed to improving active transportation along the Shelbourne corridor and thank you for your patience as we complete this important work.

Q. How can I get updates?

A. Saanich is committed to ensuring that all stakeholders are kept informed during each phase of the project to help minimize disruption. Regular updates will be posted on saanich.ca/shelbourne. Please also like us on Facebook @Saanich.BC and follow us on Twitter @Saanich.

Q. Who should I contact if I have a question?

A. The project team can be reached at engineering@saanich.ca or 250-475-5575.

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