

Shelbourne Street Improvement Project

FAQs April 2020

Q. What's happening?

A. After extensive community consultation on the design concept and future plan for the Shelbourne Valley, the District of Saanich is now starting to make tangible improvements to Shelbourne Street.

This important construction will be done in three phases over the next several years, starting in 2020.

Q. How is COVID-19 impacting this work?

A. The Province has deemed municipalities to be an essential service. As such, work will continue on the project. Crews will start as planned and work to ensure that physical distancing measures and deep cleaning protocols are adhered to.

This safety focus will allow crews and residents to stay safe while this important project continues.

With the current low-volume on roads this work will presently cause limited disruptions to traffic and commuters.

The construction contractor, Ralmax Contracting Ltd., will be required to include safe work methods in their safety plan for effective mitigation of COVID-19 exposure and the safe performance of their work.

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 longer-term, 30-year vision for Shelbourne Valley unfolds and takes shape.

Q. When will construction start?

A. Construction for phase 1 - between approximately McKenzie Avenue and Torquay Drive - will start in April 2020 and will last about 15-18 months.

Q. When will construction be finished?

A. Construction on phase 1 is expected to be completed in mid-late 2021 (weather dependent).

Q. What disruptions can the public expect?

A. Disruptions should be expected during weekdays, such as traffic delays, increased noise and dust, and occasional service interruptions during installation of new water and sewer lines. We apologize for any inconvenience anyone may experience as a result of this work.

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. We have worked diligently to ensure that the number of trees that must be removed is as few as possible.

Some trees will be removed, mainly in the area of the Shelbourne Road/Feltham Road intersection; however, for every tree that must be removed three will be replanted.

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 ph# 250-475-5575.