



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

REGULAR COUNCIL REPORT

For the Regular Council meeting on Monday, January 27, 2025

Re: 2024 Major Capital Projects Update

PURPOSE:

Update Council on status of 2024 Major Capital Projects

BACKGROUND:

The District started executing a full 5-year capital plan in 2024 to advance the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan and continue executing the District's asset management plan. Major infrastructure replacement and new infrastructure planning, design and construction started and will continue to address aging infrastructure and address road safety and accessibility issues.

Additionally, the Ministry of Transportation and Transit continued their Keating Flyover Project which greatly affects the District's roads, stormwater and water infrastructure in the Keating/Tanner Ridge neighbourhoods.

DISCUSSION:

Keating Flyover

The Ministry of Transportation and Transit's (MOTT) Keating Flyover project is progressing. MOTT have indicated that the contractor is approximately 65% complete construction including the District's water and sewer main replacement and stormwater improvements. Items like utility permitting (PNG), environmental regulatory requirements, BC Hydro coordination and lead times for equipment have slowed improvements like the traffic light controller replacement for the Central Saanich Rd/Keating Cross Road intersection. The District's works are still within budget.

The current timeline received by MOTT indicates the flyover structure is still on target to be open in the spring to early summer 2025 with remaining contracted works to be completed by the end of 2025. An updated schedule is anticipated early 2025.

Brentwood Bay Sewer

Contract A – Hazelwood Contracting was retained in spring 2024 for the lineal construction works. Lineal force main and gravity sewer pipe is mostly complete construction. A 20 m section of force main on Wallace Drive, near Willow Way has not been constructed due to a lengthy delay with BC Hydro approval on construction proximity to a hydro tower and hydro pole.

Paving is substantially complete. Cost savings through re-use of existing concrete barriers has allowed for additional paving that has been undertaken. Unfortunately, the savings are insufficient to completely overlay the width of the roadway, staff are looking into options and will come back to Council with a report on options.

Barriers and railing installation on the south side of Wallace Drive started the week of January 13, 2025 with line painting to be completed once the weather is suitable. The road is tentatively scheduled for opening to two-way traffic week of January 20, 2025. Additional road safety and way finding signage will follow in the spring associated with other initiatives the District is undertaking along the Wallace Drive corridor.

At the [July 22, 2024 Regular Council Meeting](#)¹, Council passed the following [three motions](#)²:

Direct staff to explore concept routes between Brentwood Bay to Saanichton including the use of Carriage Lane, Sluggett Avenue and Stelly's Cross Road to improve cyclist safety as part of the Parks and Trails Masterplan and update to the Active Transportation Plan in 2025.

That staff review the sidewalk design on Wallace Drive to see if it does or can accommodate vulnerable populations, including wider implements such as cargo bikes and accessibility equipment, and report back to Council.

Direct staff to report back on Vision Zero review of District of Central Saanich roads and explore the implications of a 30km zone between West Saanich Rd. and Stelly's Rd. on Wallace Dr.

Staff are still working with landowners on possible relocation of existing road right-of-ways to explore possible routes between Brentwood Bay to Saanichton.

The consultant had reviewed the design of the sidewalk design on Wallace Drive to see if it could further accommodate vulnerable populations, unfortunately, as stated in the May 30, 2024 staff report to the Healthy Communities Committee, physical and financial limitations prohibit many options. Drainage is required on both the south and north sides of Wallace Drive, either retaining walls or significantly sloped banks would be required if the sidewalk was widened. This would necessitate a railing.

Contract B – The pump station, connection and commissioning work was tendered the week of January 13, 2025. The delay in tendering was due to a delay in receiving the final technical specifications from the consultant and a delay in pricing from the Contract A contractor. Pricing was sought from Hazelwood as they have the technical expertise to do the additional work, but their pricing for Contract B was a magnitude higher than budget.

This work is required to be completed as part of the Investing Canada Infrastructure Program grant submission. Currently, the whole Brentwood Bay Sewer project is on scope and schedule, with variance to budget being determined after tendering of Contract B.

¹ <https://pub-centralsaanich.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=18433>

² <https://pub-centralsaanich.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=19154>

Active Transportation Program

The District has delay in a few 2024 active transportation projects associated with hiring and onboarding new staff associated with project managing and supporting active transportation capital works, and the CRD's delay in executing transmission water main works.

Central Saanich Road pathway/East Saanich Road sidewalk and bike lanes are projects the District is working with the CRD on executing. The CRD is replacing transmission Main No. 4 from Lochside Drive and Heritage Acres, across Highway 17, along Central Saanich Road to Mt Newton Cross Road. The District has entered into a design agreement with the CRD to have the CRD complete detailed design of the sidewalk along Central Saanich Road and possibly replace an asbestos cement water main within the Central Saanich Road right-of-way. At the beginning of 2024 the CRD indicated that would be able to start construction in fall 2024, but due to technical issues with crossing the highway and alignment changes their design has been delayed. They are working towards tendering their project in February.

Additionally, the CRD is extending their Bear Hill transmission main that stops at East Saanich Road and Wallace Drive. They are extending it to Dean Park Road along East Saanich Road. This coincides with crosswalk, bike lanes and sidewalk installation along a portion of East Saanich Road. This work is also required to facilitate replacement of the CRD's Main No. 4.

Wallace Drive Watermain/Painted Bike Lanes and possible sidewalk is a project the District had delayed tendering from August to December due to onboarding of new staff and consultant delays. The tender has closed and staff will be bringing forward a recommendation of award at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Mt Newton Pathway has been phased due to proximity and to facilitate a BC Active Transportation Grant, that the District was successful in for Phase 1 – Highway 17 to Lochside Drive which was considerably complete by the end of 2024, signage, painting and other seasonal works are outstanding but anticipated to be completed well before March 2025.

Phase 2 of the Mt Newton Pathway is still in conceptual design. Partners and shareholders, such as Island Health, CRD, and the SṭÁUTW First Nation consultation has been undertaken. Additional consultation with the SṭÁUTW is underway to finalize the options for alignment. Once complete public information sessions will be held and detailed design completed for tendering in fall 2025.

Active Transportation Education planning has started with the retention of a dedicated Active Transportation Projects Coordinator and Climate and Active Transportation Communications Specialist.

CONCLUSION:

Central Saanich infrastructure is aging, with a changing climate and needs from the residents. Coordination of capital projects to realize effective service delivery is required to ensure continued service and planned future needs.

Respectfully submitted by:	Dale Puskas, Director of Engineering
Concurrence by:	Christine Culham, Chief Administrative Officer