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The Corporation of **THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER**
ENGINEERING, PARKS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

INFORMATION REPORT

To: Mayor Linda Buchanan and Members of Council

From: Mo Bot, Project Manager – Public Realm Infrastructure

Subject: ESPLANADE COMPLETE STREET – CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Date: March 16, 2022 File No: 16-8350-20-0034/1

The Esplanade Complete Street project construction is proceeding well, advancing civil, electrical, and landscape works throughout the project corridor.

Construction Update

To expedite construction, the City is working with the contractor to shift the active work zone on a block-by-block basis so removals and installation can occur concurrently. This has had a notable impact on minimizing the impact of winter weather on the overall construction schedule. As a result, core underground infrastructure installation is complete between Mahon and Rogers. This includes system wide drainage connections, electrical conduit and connections for signal and light upgrades, irrigation for trees and planting beds and soil cells to support tree health. Sidewalks and paving for the asphalt bike path between Mahon and Chesterfield are 90% complete.

Attention has now shifted to the block between Rogers and Lonsdale on the south side of Esplanade to complete removals. In preparation for this work to begin, the project team has engaged with the key stakeholders on the block and visited businesses to discuss the work that is to occur and the actions we are taking to mitigate the impact. Temporary signage will be a critical component of the mitigation strategy on this block to communicate that the businesses and the Museum of North Vancouver remain open.

Parallel to the construction on West Esplanade, underground repair work east of Lonsdale is about to get underway with a completion date in May.

Core project scheduling will continue to be refined as work proceeds with the objective of complete works as quickly and efficiently as possible.



Soil cell installation between Semisch and Rogers. Space underneath the new active mobility lanes provides room for additional soil volumes for trees. The use of soil cells will double the volume of soil provided for street trees and provide supportive structure to the roots to support longevity and health of our green assets.



Mobility lane curbs, new asphalt surface, sidewalks, and forms for new trees are installed near Waterfront Park. New mobility lanes are separated from both vehicle traffic and the sidewalk by a combination of vertical separation and planted boulevards incorporating furnishings such as seating areas.



Bus stop upgrades are installed at Semisch. All bus stops have been designed to meet TransLink's Accessible Bus Stop Design Guidelines incorporating directional surface indicators to support navigation by people with low- or no-vision. Placing the mobility lane behind the bus stop eliminates the conflict between buses stopping at the curb and people cycling.

Construction Outlook and Ongoing Engagement

Maintaining a steady pace of construction as well as a clean and passable construction zone continues to be a primary focus of the project team to minimize the impact on the community.

Construction activity will begin to shift to the north side of Esplanade in mid to late spring. While pedestrian and commercial activity is anticipated to be higher at this time, the more consistent favourable weather will help reduce the construction time in these areas minimizing the total impact. To prepare businesses for construction, staff have been working directly with businesses small and large to confirm a construction plan that will minimize impacts to daily business operations and customer access. In some cases this has meant establishing alternate delivery zones and in others preparing to time deliveries with construction sequencing. Social and digital media channels and the project webpage (www.cnv.org/ecs) continue to share up to date information with the broader public.

The project team is also coordinating with Shipyards event staff as needed around upcoming events including Rogers Hometown Hockey in April and CityFest in May.

Funding

The Project Team continues to advance multiple applications for additional funding to support delivery of Phase 2 (Forbes Avenue from Mahon Avenue to 3rd Street) and to offset the total cost of the project to the City. At the end of 2021, staff received notice of \$120,000 in supportive funding from ICBC for current works in Phase 1 with indication that additional funding would be available in 2022.

Additional funding is being sought through TransLink, the Federal Active Transportation Fund and the Federal Canada Community Revitalization fund. Council will receive an update as more information is known about these applications.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Mo Bot
Project Manager – Public Realm Infrastructure