

March 23, 2010

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### **First Week of Hwy 19A Construction: Successful Excavation Under Simms Creek, Traffic Management Plan Adjusted**

Last week saw the first phase of successful excavation work completed for the South Island Highway 19A Upgrade Project. This involved deep excavations in preparation for laying new utility casing under Simms Creek.

The operation was successfully in place by Thursday, and the boring work, involving safety cages and a high powered pneumatic pressured ram forcing a one-metre diameter steel pipe under the creek, was completed ahead of schedule on the weekend.

This week, work will start from north to south on the sanitary sewer main, including new manholes, for eventual tie-in to the new lift station. Work is also beginning on the new water main, starting at Simms Creek and continuing towards the southern limit at Hilchey Road. Additional roadway construction activity will include continued stripping of the asphalt surface and removal of sections of the seawalk.

*"I'm pleased to share that the project is progressing as planned, with a major milestone already achieved ahead of schedule,"* said Mayor Charlie Cornfield. *"Residents seem to be adapting to the construction and to the road closure."*

Traffic has been following the three designated detour routes, with extra traffic volume noted at the intersection of Galerno and Rockland, back-ups on Galerno southbound and congestion at the intersection of Hilchey and Galerno.

*"We're working to address challenges with traffic management, specifically along the Galerno detour route, to ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians,"* said Ron Neufeld, General Manager of Operations for the City.

The City has made the following changes to the 19A Traffic Management Plan:

- Adding signage to the Galerno route at Rockland intersection indicating "Local Traffic Only"
- Installing a traffic barrier at the Rockland/Galerno intersection to limit southbound traffic to local traffic only
- Placing a flag person on site for the next two weeks during the afternoons to remind drivers of the location of the southbound detour route at South Alder

The City is also working with the RCMP to monitor and enforce speed control in the neighborhood, reminding commercial truck drivers of designated truck routes, researching the possibility of changing the pedestrian crossing at Galerno and Hilchey into a flashing pedestrian crossing, and reminding motorists via the media that southbound detour A traffic needs to follow the South Alder detour.

For more information including a map of detour routes visit the Highway 19A Upgrade pages on the City of Campbell River website: [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca).

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