

May 5, 2016

'Tis the season for traffic improvements – road repair and street light replacement

Spring is the start of paving season, and crews have already started road repair work in Campbell River.

The City and Tayco Paving will be busy over the next number of weeks, including repaving a number of larger projects scheduled to start in this month.

Major work includes new pavement for:

- Dogwood between 4th and 7th avenues (southbound lanes)
- Evergreen from McPhedran to the old BCHydro yard
- Coho, Steelhead (connection to Park) and the top of Park

“During this time, in addition to the larger projects, paving repairs will take place as the final touches on utility repair work over the past season,” says Drew Hadfield, the City’s transportation manager.

“Drivers are reminded that they might encounter temporary gravel patches where crews are preparing routes for paving. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience due to minor delays and hope to have most of the year’s work completed before the end of June,” Hadfield adds.

A bright idea for street lights has also taken hold as the City has already replaced nearly 500 existing lamps with lower cost and longer-lasting light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures, and more to come throughout the community.

The City of Campbell River’s roads department has upgraded street lights in:

- residential areas such as Willow Point, Penfield, McPhedran, Forest Grove, Middle Point
- commercial areas along Shoppers Row and Pier Street and Hwy 19A in Willow Point
- at City facilities (Sportsplex parking lot, Discovery Pier, Museum, Spit Road)

“LED fixtures realize a monthly cost savings for power consumption because the lamps have a lifespan and electrical efficiency several times greater than incandescent lamps and are significantly more efficient than the current high pressure sodium used for most street lights. We’re finding the new lamps are lasting up to twice as long as the ones we had before,” Hadfield explains.

The City is responsible for more than 3,500 streetlights; approximately half owned by the City and half leased from BC Hydro.

“We’re looking forward to future programs involving BC Hydro that would see those lights retrofitted to realize a reduction in the City’s lease fees,” Hadfield adds.

The City of Campbell River began converting street lights to LED fixtures three years ago, first retrofitting the lights along Dogwood, south of McPhedran.

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