

NEWS RELEASE

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Feedback on proposed Harewood pedestrian and cycling route sought by City

Residents encouraged to learn more and share their ideas on May 13

Summary

The public are encouraged to attend the Active For Life Expo on Saturday, May 13, 2017 to learn more and provide their feedback on initial design ideas for a proposed pedestrian and cycling friendly route through Harewood. The Georgia Greenway will link a number of key destinations across Harewood including schools, parks, sports fields and commercial areas. Once completed, the Georgia Greenway will create a comfortable experience for users of all ages, abilities and confidence levels.

The proposed trail was first identified in the Harewood Neighbourhood Plan, with Phase 1 being selected as one of the five capital projects adopted by City Council as part of the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan Update. Phase 1 includes:

- A new multi-use trail through Harewood Centennial Park connecting Sixth and Seventh Streets
- A new pedestrian and cycling bridge over the Chase River
- New lighting along the multi-use trail
- Safety enhancements at the intersection crossings of both Georgia Avenue and Sixth Street and Georgia Avenue and Seventh Street.

Strategic Link: Nanaimo City Council identified the Georgia Greenway as one of the Top 5 Key Capital Projects and Initiatives in the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan Update.

Key Points

- City staff and representatives will be onsite at the Active for Life Expo on Saturday, May 13, 2017 at Harewood Centennial Park between 10am to 2pm. Residents are encouraged to come by to learn more about the project and provide their feedback.
- Once complete, Phase 1 of the Georgia Greenway will provide a pedestrian and cyclist connection through Harewood Centennial Park between Sixth Street and Seventh Street, providing greater accessibility to the Park and connectivity for the Harewood community.
- Construction is currently scheduled for 2018.

Quotes

"Enhancing an active community with alternatives to cars is the focal point of many cities and communities across North America. Nanaimo is no different in our desire to create safe, walkable and cycleable paths and greenways for easy access to key destinations within the community. The Georgia Greenway project is the first of a number of such initiatives. Please come out to add your input on May 13th!"

Bill McKay
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- One of the five key capital projects selected by Council for the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan Update was 'Construct Georgia Avenue Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge over Chase River'. Phase 1 of the Georgia Greenway is this project.
- The Georgia Greenway is supported by the Harewood Neighbourhood Plan, the Official Community Plan, the Harewood Centennial Park Master Plan and the Nanaimo Transportation Master Plan.
- City Council adopted the Nanaimo Transportation Master Plan in 2014. This plan seeks to significantly increase sustainable modes of transportation within the City and sets a number of specific targets. One of these targets is to increase cycling within the City so there are 5 times more cycle trips per day by 2041 than there was in 2014.

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