

NEWS RELEASE

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Georgia Greenway Project Put on Hold

Proposed Bridge Will Undergo Further Review

Summary

Phase 1 of the Georgia Greenway project has been placed on hold as the City pursues options to address concerns from residents over planned tree removal for the proposed pedestrian/cycling bridge over the Chase River.

At their Special Meeting on Monday, March 26, Council directed staff to defer the project and conduct further review of the proposed bridge crossing in regards to tree retention.

Site cleanup from work already underway will be completed shortly and all remaining tree removal work has been cancelled.

The Georgia Greenway construction project was being coordinated with other planned underground utility and sidewalk upgrade work within the area. As a result, the Georgia Greenway & Harewood Utilities Projects construction services tender has also been cancelled.

Staff will now engage the consultant to conduct a further review of options to see if it is possible to construct a bridge and retain any of the large cottonwood trees.

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

- Following a motion from Council, City staff will conduct a further review of the proposed Chase River bridge crossing in regards to tree retention.
- All remaining tree removal work for the proposed bridge crossing has been cancelled.
- The Georgia Greenway and Harewood Utilities Projects Tender has been cancelled.

Quotes

"A review of the proposed bridge design will be completed along with additional public consultation before the project moves forward."

Kurtis Noble
Capital Project Management Specialist
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- 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.
- Nanaimo City Council identified the Georgia Avenue Pedestrian / Cycling Bridge over the Chase River project as one of the Top 5 Key Capital Projects and Initiatives in the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan Update.

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