

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed June 14, 2018

### Georgia Greenway Project To Resume

*Construction to commence following results of design review*

#### Summary

At their meeting on Monday, June 11, Nanaimo City Council approved resuming construction of the Georgia Greenway project using the current design, which includes a 4 metre wide pedestrian/cycling bridge over the Chase River.

Over the last two months, City staff completed a detailed review of the project planning documents, bridge design and tree removal, which included a detailed risk assessment of the two landmark Cottonwood trees by a Registered Professional Forester. Additional public consultation was held to gather feedback on the multi-modal bridge design and tree removal needed to build the bridge.

The results of the new public consultation and survey indicated that a majority of the public support the Harewood Neighbourhood Plan, support the current design for a multi-modal bridge, and support the removal of select trees in order to build the bridge.

The Georgia Greenway construction project is being coordinated with other planned underground utility and sidewalk upgrade work within the area. The construction services tender will be issued and construction can be expected to begin this summer.

**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

- Construction of Phase 1 of the Georgia Greenway project will proceed in 2018, including the proposed 4 metre wide pedestrian/cycling bridge over the Chase River.
- A detailed review of the project planning documents, bridge design and tree removal was completed.
- A risk assessment of the two landmark Cottonwood trees concluded that both trees have significant decay, and both trees would pose a high risk to people and the bridge if they remain.
- The results of the recent public consultation indicated that a majority of the public support the project.

#### Quotes

"The Georgia Greenway has been a Council priority, and I am very pleased to see it moving ahead. It is part of the Harewood Community Plan which the neighbourhood has endorsed, and will enhance our growing City network of connected walkways and cycling paths"

Ian Thorpe  
Councillor  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- The proposed 4 metre wide multi modal bridge over the Chase River has been designed to meet specific goals and objectives identified in the 2013 Harewood Neighbourhood Plan.
- Council had placed the project on hold earlier this year and requested a review of the bridge design after hearing from local residents concerned about the bridge and planned tree removal.

-30-

### Contact:

Kurtis Noble  
Capital Project Management Specialist  
City of Nanaimo  
kurtis.noble@nanaimo.ca  
250-756-5330



View the online edition for more information -  
<https://cnan.ca/2HOpmLd>