

NEWS RELEASE

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More efficient commute coming to busy Nanaimo road

City implements traffic signal coordination plan on Bowen Road

Summary

Bowen Road is one of the busiest arterial roads within the City, connecting more than 20,000 vehicles to various destinations within Nanaimo daily. A new traffic signal coordination plan will make the Bowen Road commute easier and more efficient for drivers.

In 2012, the City created a similar traffic signal coordination plan for Terminal Ave, between Stewart Ave and Waddington Road, which successfully reduced motorist delay.

In the fall of 2017, the City hired a consultant to conduct a traffic study and prepare a signal coordination plan for the Bowen corridor to decrease delay and improve safety. The Study indicated that there would be a significant reduction in delay for motorists on Bowen Road, however there would be a small increase in delay on the side streets.

The City is currently in the process of implementing this plan and will be conducting follow up observations to ensure that the signals are working as intended. The City appreciates driver patience during this period as the final product will provide the community with a better transportation network.

Strategic Link: These improvements support the Transportation Master Plan, which is one of Council's Six Strategic Initiatives.

Key Points

- Motorists travelling at the speed limit on Bowen Road will experience less delay, save time and fuel, and produce less greenhouse gas emissions.
- Motorists on side streets may experience additional delay.
- Follow up observations will be taking place over the next two weeks, which will provide an opportunity to make adjustments.
- The efficiencies gained will result in cost savings for the 20,000-30,000 drivers who use Bowen Road daily.

Quotes

"As transportation networks grow, corridor coordination is a key part of ensuring efficient travel. We appreciate your patience while we implement this plan as the end product will result in much fewer delays on Bowen Road."

Jamie Rose
Manager of Transportation
City of Nanaimo

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