

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed August 25, 2020

### Changes coming to Commercial, Bastion Street intersection

*Four-way stop pilot project begins September 1*

#### Summary

The commute in downtown Nanaimo will be a little different beginning September 1, 2020. The City of Nanaimo's Transportation Planning Group is running a pilot project, which will see the aging traffic signal at the intersection of Commercial Street and Bastion Street change to a four-way stop. The intersection is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2021 and, if the pilot is successful, the four-way stop may become permanent.

On the morning of Tuesday, September 1, 2020, commuters can expect to see a stop sign installed on each corner and the traffic signal put into a four-way red flash mode. Drivers are reminded to yield to pedestrians and remember that the right-of-way rule applies. For more information on four-way stops and its rules, click on the ICBC Right-Of-Way Rules link in the online version of this news release.

*Strategic Link:* We will proactively plan for Nanaimo's growth and focus on community infrastructure to support an inclusive, healthy, safe and desirable place to live.

#### Key Points

- Public consultation indicated a pilot project would be valuable. The pilot project is scheduled to run until October 2020. If successful, it may become a permanent fixture along with some other intersection improvements.
- As of September 1, 2020, four-way stop procedures will be in place at the intersection of Commercial Street and Bastion Street.

#### Quotes

"This intersection sees only moderate traffic volumes but can see in excess of 200 pedestrians during afternoon peak hours. Under these conditions, research suggests a four-way stop may be more appealing for pedestrians than a traffic signal because each motorist approaching the intersection must stop and look around them. This change should make walking downtown much more enjoyable."

Jamie Rose  
Manager, Transportation  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- A four-way stop is a traffic management system which requires vehicles on all the approaches to a road intersection to stop at the intersection before proceeding through.

Continued... Changes coming to Commercial, Bastion Street intersection

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