

NEWS RELEASE

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Work continues on East Wellington Road and the Midtown Water Supply Project

The Parkway Overpass will be closed to through traffic for several weeks as the project extends to December

Summary

The City of Nanaimo will be installing critical underground water infrastructure at the intersection of Madsen Road and East Wellington Road and towards the Parkway overpass starting next week. This complex and necessary work will disrupt traffic. Vehicle travel will not be possible on East Wellington between Westwood Road and Madsen Road as the roadway is too narrow to safely accommodate both traffic and construction crews.

Originally scheduled to be complete in October, the East Wellington section of the Midtown Water Supply project has seen challenges and delays due to a significant amount of hard rock below the road surface where the new pipeline will be installed. The timeline for this section of the project has now been extended into December.

Commuters are asked for their understanding as they choose a new daily travel route and avoid this area. Access for pedestrian and cyclist traffic will be maintained. Pedestrians are advised to watch for sidewalk closures and follow detour signage and the direction of traffic control persons. Cyclists are encouraged to dismount and use sidewalks.

All businesses will remain open and accessible during these road closures. Please follow the directions of traffic control persons and expect delays. Businesses at 1920, 1918, 1910, 1911 East Wellington Road will be able to enter and exit from the Westwood Road direction off East Wellington Road. Businesses at 429, 425, 400/401 Madsen Road will be able to enter and exit from Bowen Road off East Wellington Road.

So far, 310 meters of water supply main has been installed along East Wellington Road. 230 meters of water supply main and 150 meters of water distribution main, as well as 90 meters of water distribution main on Madsen Road are left to be installed. It is anticipated that all of this work could be complete by the end of December; however, it is possible that the installation on Madsen Road could continue into January 2024.

Looking ahead to the next year, please note that there will be other significant traffic disruptions required for this project in various locations, including Bowen Road in the Summer of 2024. More details will be provided as the project progresses.

The City thanks residents for their ongoing patience during this important construction project. Please follow the City's Facebook or Twitter accounts (@cityofnanaimo) and visit the [project webpage](#) for the most current information.

Strategic Link: The Midtown Water Supply project supports Council's commitment to service and quality of life improvements across the City, ensuring a resilient water supply for Nanaimo's future.

Key Points

- The timeline for the Midtown Water Supply installation along East Wellington Road has been extended into December due to hard rock where the piping is to be installed.
- October 23 to November 10: East Wellington Road from Westwood Road to Madsen Road is closed to vehicle traffic, no through access on the Parkway overpass, as well as north and south through the Madsen Rd

intersection, 24hrs/day, 7days/week until construction is outside of the intersection of East Wellington Road and Madsen Road. Commuters must choose an alternate route.

- November 13 to December 1: East Wellington Road from Westwood Road to Madsen Road is closed to vehicle traffic, no through access on the Parkway overpass, 24 hrs/day, Monday to Friday while construction is along East Wellington Road between the Parkway overpass and the intersection of Madsen Road. Commuters must choose an alternate route.

Quotes

"While we hoped the Midtown Water Supply Project wouldn't encounter any significant slowdowns, here we are, stuck between rock and a hard place. Thank you for your patience as we install our critical new water supply line, Nanaimo!"

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

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