NEWS RELEASE

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New E&N Trail extension improves active transportation connections

Additional 900 metres added to E&N Trail

Summary

Residents can now enjoy additional trail options in south Nanaimo following the completion of a new 900-metre extension to the E&N Trail.

Completed in early November, the new soft surface trail runs from Junction Avenue to Extension Road and provides an important connection for pedestrians, cyclists and other trail users. The new section improves access to Chase River Elementary School and the future South End Recreation Centre planned for the corner of Junction Avenue and Twelfth Street.

The project is the latest milestone in an ongoing partnership between the City of Nanaimo, the Island Corridor Foundation (ICF) and the Southern Railway of Vancouver Island (SVI) to expand trail connections throughout the rail corridor and create a more connected trail network.

Future planning includes connecting the new trail section to the Parkway Trail.

City Council has approved a budget of $550,000 for construction of the trail extension and the future pedestrian rail crossing. The project is significantly underbudget at this time.

The E&N Trail serves as a connection through Nanaimo. In addition to the newly completed extension, the trail includes an eight-kilometre paved section from Dunster Road to Townsite Road and a 1.2-kilometre soft surface section from Hecate Street to Seventh Street which was completed in 2025.

For more information about the E&N Trail, visit the City's E&N Trail webpage. [https://www.nanaimo.ca/parks-search/parks/243-E_N-Trail].

Strategic Link: The City of Nanaimo's City Plan: Nanaimo ReImagined places a strong emphasis on active transportation as part of its vision for a connected, healthy and sustainable community.

Key Points

- A new 900-metre gravel extension to the E&N Trail has been completed. The trail connects Junction Avenue and Extension Road.
- The extension improves access to Chase River Elementary School and the future South End Recreation Centre.
- Planning is underway for a pedestrian railway crossing connecting the trail to the Parkway Trail.

Quotes

"The E&N Trail continues to be one of Nanaimo's most valuable active transportation corridors connecting neighbourhoods, schools and recreation opportunities throughout our community. This new extension improves safe, accessible travel options for residents today while helping prepare for future community amenities, including the South End Recreation Centre. We are pleased to continue working with our partners to expand and enhance Nanaimo's trail network."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The E&N Trail is an important connection through Nanaimo. The trail also includes an 8 km paved section from Dunster Road to Townsite Road and a 1.2km gravel section from Hecate Street to Seventh Street that was completed in 2025.
- This project is a continuation of a successful partnership between the City of Nanaimo, Island Corridor Foundation (ICF) and Southern Railway of Vancouver Island (SVI) to expand trail connections throughout the rail corridor in Nanaimo.
- Council budgeted $550,000 for the construction of this section of the trail and for future pedestrian rail crossing.

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