



Construction of James Bay Storm Drain Bypass Required Outside Regular Hours on Saturday During Low Tide

Date: Friday, October 17, 2008

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The City of Victoria is installing a new storm drain pipe and outfall in James Bay at Fisherman's Wharf to increase capacity for stormwater run off, which will prevent future flooding in this low-lying area when high tides are timed with heavy rainfalls.

Construction, which began at the shoreline, is now at a point where crews must dig during low tide to prevent sea water from flowing in and around the new pipe's trench bed and collapsing freshly excavated areas. For this reason, area residents and businesses will be notified by letter that excavation will be required outside regular hours on Saturday, October 18, 2008, from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. during low tide.

The work, consisting of excavation and pipe laying, will take place in the Fisherman's Wharf parking lot. Sound deadening techniques will be used to reduce noise made by generators that run halogen lights, and crews will make every effort to reduce their impact on the neighbourhood. The City's Noise Bylaw will be relaxed to accommodate the work on Saturday night, and emergency services have been notified. Due to the late finish time, work will resume on Monday, from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

From this point forward, construction is expected to take place daily from 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and to be completed by the end of the month. Work is planned next spring to extend the new storm drain pipe to Michigan Street. To reduce the risk of flooding prior to completion of the project in 2010, the City has equipment available to pump out storm drain pipes in the area.

The City of Victoria is committed to improving and maintaining Victoria's aging underground infrastructure which dates back to 1891, and greatly appreciates the public's patience.

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