



Victoria's First Protected Bike Lanes Open For Use!

Date: Friday, April 28, 2017

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Victoria's first protected bike lanes along Pandora Avenue will be open for the public at 6 a.m. on Monday, May 1.

In addition to the physically separated bicycle lanes, there are number of new features to watch for as traffic patterns will change, including:

- New traffic signals for bicycles
- Painted green "turn boxes" provide dedicated space at intersections for bicycles to safely turn off Pandora and on to other streets
- No vehicle right-hand turns on red lights
 - Right hand vehicle turns will no longer be permitted on red lights along the corridor or onto the corridor from southbound roads - instead there will be dedicated right turn signals for motorists
- New bus stop locations on medians
- Reconfigured on-street parking - positioning on-road parking in between the bike lane and moving traffic
- New mid-block pedestrian crossings

The City is working with community partners to raise awareness of changes and how to share the road safely.

Directly in front of new developments (at 1002 Pandora Avenue and 1515 Douglas Street), temporary bike lane treatments will be in place until permanent facilities can be completed with the ongoing construction. New signage along the corridor and temporary traffic information boards on streets leading up to Pandora Avenue will be in place to raise awareness about the new facility.

The protected bike lanes along Pandora Avenue represents the first *all ages and abilities* bicycle facility in the downtown core. The City has earmarked \$9.075 million to build five corridors of protected bike lanes by the end of 2018. The new protected bike lanes will help increase safety for cyclists and other road users and connect the downtown core to neighbourhoods and regional trails.

On Sunday April 30 final traffic signal work will take place at signalized intersections along Pandora Avenue from Cook Street to Wharf Street. The public can expect minor traffic disruptions while this work is being completed. Work will take place between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. and is being coordinated with road closures required for the Times Colonist 10K race that

morning. Flag-persons will be present to direct vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians moving through the intersections.

The City of Victoria appreciates the patience and understanding of residents and business owners along Pandora Avenue and the general public during the construction process. An official celebration to mark the opening of the new protected bike lanes is scheduled for May 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at City Hall.

For more information, including new features and how to use the new facility, visit:

victoria.ca/cycling

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For More Information:

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