



New Urban Plaza at Humboldt/Douglas Opens Tomorrow

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — The new urban plaza at Humboldt and Douglas Streets will be open tomorrow for public use and features new street trees, benches and seating, outdoor table tennis, bike parking, and pedestrian and bicycle crossing enhancements. A community street mural will be added next month through a partnership with the Greater Victoria Place-Making Network and the City is distributing table tennis paddles and balls to nearby schools, businesses, hotels, and residences.

The opening completes the protected bike lane phase of the Wharf/Humboldt project, which starts at the Johnson Street Bridge and extends to Douglas Street. The remainder of the Humboldt Street shared-use cycling facilities will open later this fall after the underground infrastructure upgrades are complete.

“This project has transformed the look and feel of this waterfront corridor. It has improved road safety and has brought more vibrancy to one of Victoria’s most important streets,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “The new pedestrian scramble crosswalk and protected bike lanes showcase a forward thinking city that puts people first”.

“Cycling is an affordable and environmentally friendly way to get around,” said Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. “Our government is pleased to partner with the City of Victoria to help make this safe cycling route a reality. We will continue to work with regional, local, and Indigenous governments to improve road safety and road networks.”

New features along the Wharf/Humboldt corridor include:

- a two-way protected bike lane from Pandora Avenue to Douglas Street
- a shared, traffic-calmed road from Douglas to Vancouver Streets (opening this fall)
- eight improved pedestrian crossings and a new pedestrian scramble crosswalk
- two urban plazas with street trees, benches and urban play features
- a new pedestrian-controlled traffic signal at Yates Street
- a new traffic signal at the Johnson Street Bridge
- new transit stops near the entrance to Reeson Park and on Government Street

The City encourages everyone to watch for and obey new traffic signals, to use caution when navigating the corridor, and to respect others by always following the rules of the road. Safety ambassadors have been stationed along Wharf Street to help answer questions about the new facilities and provide educational materials to road users.

Funding partners for this project include the Government of Canada, the Province of B.C., the Trans Canada Trail Foundation, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. These investments are a part of the 32km cycling network that will connect every neighbourhood in Victoria by the end of 2022. Each project focuses on improving road safety and contributes to infrastructure renewal, climate action goals, and overall affordability for residents in the Capital Region.

For more information visit: victoria.ca/cycling

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