



## New Route to Ride Just in Time for *GoByBike* Week

Date: Friday, Sept. 25, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The latest addition to the City’s safer cycling network is open just in time for *GoByBike* week, a local event that encourages people of all ages and abilities to bike for transportation, fitness or fun taking place September 28 to October 4 throughout the region.

The two-way protected bike lanes on Harbour Road are now open for public use. Harbour Road connects the City’s downtown network to the Galloping Goose Regional Trail and offers new mobility options in the growing Victoria West neighbourhood.

“I know we’ve all been limiting our interactions and sometimes just staying inside our homes to limit the spread of the pandemic,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “Cycling on our family-friendly network of bike lanes is a terrific way to get outside, get some fresh air and exercise and also get where you need to go safely, affordably and sustainably.”

Construction is currently underway on the Vancouver, Jackson, and Graham Street corridor. This route features a shared-road, traffic-calmed design along with protected bike lanes on each side of a portion of Vancouver Street in the downtown core. The project, scheduled to be completed in early 2021, takes a complete streets approach and includes replacement of underground utilities, road paving, traffic signal upgrades, accessibility retrofits, new trees and place-making features along the route to complement the road safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians.

Residents, businesses, and commuters are also invited to weigh in on preliminary designs for the next group of corridors Oaklands Connector, Fernwood Connector, and Fort Street Central corridors. This initial phase of engagement started on September 21 at [engage.victoria.ca](https://engage.victoria.ca). People can check out an introductory video, check out route information and complete a short survey to provide their input on design considerations and route alignment. Later this fall, the City will roll out full-length designs for each corridor, incorporating the ideas gathered and inviting further comments and feedback on designs from stakeholders and the public.

When the City’s 32 kilometre AAA network is complete, 95 per cent of residents will live within 500 metres of an AAA cycling route. Active transportation initiatives and safer cycling routes are key actions in Victoria’s Climate Leadership Plan and Go Victoria, the City’s mobility strategy.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- AAA Cycling Network Map
- Photo of New Harbour Road Bike Lanes

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