Imagine cycling or walking Victoria’s waterfront pathway, stopping to relax at a waterside café with friends, enjoying live music, or learning about First Nations culture or our coastal habitat – all the while soaking up spectacular ocean views.

The City’s proposed design concepts for advancing Victoria’s stunning waterfront pathway aim to have you doing just that.

More than five kilometres in length, once complete, David Foster Way will extend from Rock Bay to Ogden Point and will be one of the longest continuous pedestrian and cycling harbour pathways in North America.

The concepts envision 11 special places be developed along the pathway to capture international attention and make David Foster Way a spectacular landmark. Some special places recognize the contributions of First Nations, while others showcase Canadian arts, culture and music, demonstrate environmental restoration, or enhance recreation opportunities. Each special place features thematic and interpretive experiences in the form of stylized bridges, coves or boardwalks.

The concept plans are the heart of Victoria’s Harbour Plan, which was developed with extensive public consultation and approved by City Council in 2008. The goal is to develop a public amenity for the entire city that brings people together and spurs sustainable economic development downtown.

Making this vision for the pathway a reality will take the energy and financial support of other levels of government, donors and private developers to achieve. A group of local citizens is working with the City to identify opportunities for community partnerships and funding programs.

Heron Cove at Fisherman’s Wharf is one of the special places that the City hopes to move forward in the near future. In May, Vancity contributed $100,000 towards the development of Heron Cove, as its design features are strongly aligned with the credit union’s commitment to vibrant, sustainable and integrated local economies. The proposed concept for Heron Cove includes shoreline restoration and the construction of intertidal pools to complement the Fisherman’s Wharf Park rain garden nearby. A new bridge connects people with the waterfront, and a ramp for kayaks and small boats enhances recreation opportunities. New seating encircles a stylized Heron Cove sign which is anchored by a tall mast, providing a restful viewing area of Victoria’s Inner Harbour.

The design concepts create a vision for the tremendous potential this space holds for the community. David Foster demonstrated his enthusiasm and support for this vision by contributing $50,000 towards advancing the pathway that bears his name during a visit to Victoria in May.

As opportunities arise to develop a special place, the City will consult with the community to fine tune the concept. To view the proposed concept plans online, visit: www.victoria.ca/davidfosterway
New Development Centre is “Open for Business”

A new Development Centre on the second floor of City Hall is now “open for business”. Construction of the centre was part of a seismic upgrade of Victoria’s historic City Hall, and provided improved access to all areas of the building and included the installation of an elevator.

The Development Centre brings together all business and development related inquiries in one area, including Permits and Inspections, Development Services, Engineering, and Business Licensing.

The Centre is designed to improve information and services for residents, businesses and developers doing business in the Capital City. It offers meeting rooms for customers to have private meetings without disruption to others around them, new self-serve kiosks to print forms and information on demand, and more space and access to staff who are assisting people considering or investing in Victoria.

Residents are reminded that, in many instances, you can save yourself a trip to City Hall by accessing services online, including paying or disputing parking tickets, paying utility bills and accessing tender documents. Visit: www.victoria.ca

Access to City Hall

Due to construction to create accessible public washrooms on the first floor, access to City Hall is temporarily limited to the Centennial Square and Pandora Avenue entrances. There is no general access through the Douglas Street entrance.

Connecting You With Your City

The City of Victoria has recently introduced a number of online improvements aimed at keeping citizens connected to their local government, with more enhancements to come over the summer.

VicMap is the City of Victoria’s new interactive, multi-layered map, and is the most recent web-based customer service improvement from the City. The map, at www.victoria.ca/map, gives users access to a wide range of information and mapping data, including, but not limited to:

- View properties and associated data such as zoning, current development applications and Official Community Plan data
- Underground utilities and other City infrastructure
- Schools and other civic facilities
- Parks and amenities, greenways, natural areas
- Bike routes, bus stop locations, future transit plans
- Parking information including metered and non-metered spaces, parking lots and parkades, parking restrictions and bike racks
- Capital projects, heritage walking tours, public art
- Airports and rail locations

This enhancement to the website will mean that anyone with an internet connection will be able to watch public meetings and research legislation anytime, anywhere – including on mobile devices.

Users will be able to access meeting videos along with relevant supporting materials like staff reports, meeting agendas and minutes. Additionally, the content will be keywork searchable and include an RSS function, which will make following topics of interest much easier.

One example of open data at work is the City’s new garbage collection reminder service at www.victoria.ca/schedule. More than 3,500 Victoria residents have already signed up for collection day reminders by email, text, phone call, Twitter or customized calendar. This online service was designed by enterprising developers who used raw data on garbage collection schedules from local governments to develop a useful application.

Citizens interested in municipal issues will soon be able to stay up to date with the latest decisions of City Council as they watch Council meetings online. The City will launch webcasting of Council meetings this summer, available through both live streaming and online video archives.

For all programs, call Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre at 250.361.0732 to register or for more information.

Summer Program Highlights

Beacon Hill Explorers (4 – 6 yrs)
Weekdays Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
4/585 or 5/585 depending on week
Beacon Hill Park Playground
An action-packed first time camp experience held in Beacon Hill Park. Children will explore, sing, enjoy creative play, and make magical crafts!

Tennis, Basketball and Swim Camp
(7 – 13 yrs)
Monday to Friday, July 29 – August 2
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
5/180
Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre/Central Park
This multisport camp is the perfect way to learn the FUNdamentals of tennis and basketball!

Sea Kayaking Level 1 (Adults 19+)
Saturday and Sunday, July 27 – 28 or August 17 – 18, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
2/300
Offered in partnership with Ocean River Sports
Learn everything you need to know to embark with confidence on day-long sea kayaking trips in sheltered waters. Develop your kayaking strokes and rescue skills, and learn to understand marine weather forecasts, route planning, and tide-tables.

Small Group Personal Training
Tuesdays, August 6 – 27, 8 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.
8/60
Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre
Three to four clients to one coach make this a cost-effective alternative to one-on-one training. Custom designed workouts will accommodate different fitness levels, and you will receive the support and guidance you need to reach your fitness goals.

Tennis Level 1.0 – 2.0
Learn and Play (15+ yrs)
Monday/Wednesday
August 12 – September 16
5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
10/$150
Central Park
Have you always wanted to learn how to play tennis? Maybe it’s been a few years since you picked up a racquet? Our certified coaching staff will introduce you to the fundamentals of the game, strokes, and ball control in a fun and supportive environment.

For all programs, call Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre at 250.361.0732 to register or for more information.

Your Mayor and City Councillors

Dean Fortin
Mayor
Dean Fortin is serving his second term as Mayor of Victoria, and served two terms as Councillor from 2002 to 2008.
City Hall 250.361.0200
Email mayor@victoria.ca

Marianne Alto
Serving in her second term as a City Councillor, Marianne is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhood of Oaklands.
City Hall 250.361.0216
Email malto@victoria.ca

Chris Coleman
Chris has served on Council since 1999 and is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhood of James Bay.
City Hall 250.361.0223
Email ccoleman@victoria.ca

Shellie Gudgeon
Serving in her first term as a City Councillor, Shellie is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhoods of North Park and North/South Jubilee.
City Hall 250.361.0218
Email sgudgeon@victoria.ca

Lisa Helps
Serving in her first term as a City Councillor, Lisa is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhoods of Downtown and Victoria West.
City Hall 250.361.0217
Email lhelps@victoria.ca
New Kitchen Scrap Program Exceeds Diversion Target

Since February, over 530 tonnes of kitchen scraps have been diverted from the landfill. Each day, eight tonnes of kitchen scraps are collected and composted from 14,000 households in Victoria. This represents a 39% diversion rate, notably higher than the 30% initially projected.

Need a reminder?

3,500 households have now signed up for collection day reminders. Residents can choose to be reminded by email, text, phone call, Twitter or customized calendar. A collection day reminder app is also available. To sign up visit: www.victoria.ca/schedule

Need compostable bags?
The City of Victoria is now selling rolls of 90 compostable bags for $10 plus taxes. By purchasing the bags at a wholesale rate, the City is able to pass significant savings along to residents. The compostable bags are available for sale at the Public Service Centre at City Hall and at the Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre.

Compostable bags, paper bags or newspaper must be used to help contain the kitchen scraps in the small “kitchen catchers”. All three options help minimize moisture and manage odours. Compostable bags have been designed to fully break down in the composting process and are often made from cornstarch. Normal plastic bags, plastic bags made from recycled materials and biodegradable bags are not accepted with the kitchen scraps.

Have extra garbage?

Please note, as of July 6, garbage is no longer accepted for drop off at the Public Works Yard.

If you occasionally have more garbage than will fit in your Green Bin, you can purchase extra garbage tickets ($4 each) at the Public Service Centre at City Hall, the Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre or at one of the City’s five parkades. Place your extra bags and their tickets beside your Green Bin on your normal collection day and our staff will save you a trip to the Public Works Yard. All garbage must be bagged and weigh less than 15 kilograms or 33 pounds.

If you consistently have more garbage than will fit in your Green Bin, you can request a larger sized Grey Bin for an additional annual fee. This can be done online at www.victoria.ca/greenbin or by calling 250.361.0226.

Yard and garden waste will continue to be accepted at the Public Works Yard on Saturdays from 7 a.m to 2 p.m. Customers will be limited to one pickup truck visit, or two car visits per weekend.

Please visit www.victoria.ca/greenbin for further details on options for recycling or disposing of large household items.

Have Your Say:

What Do You Think of the Pilot Road Changes in Beacon Hill Park?

The next time you’re enjoying Beacon Hill Park with friends and family, check out the road changes that are being piloted. Let us know what you think by completing our online survey at: www.victoria.ca under “Have Your Say”. The survey closes on August 31, 2013.

Changes in traffic direction and road closures are being piloted for one year to reduce traffic and make the park more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. A combination of bollards, street painting, signage and new curbing temporarily directs traffic in the park during the year-long pilot.

If there is community support for the proposed changes, the temporary bollards will be replaced by permanent curbing, increased green space and multi-use trails in 2014.

Bridge Update:

Construction of the new Johnson Street Bridge is now underway. The existing bridge will remain open to pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles and marine traffic throughout construction. Crews are building the replacement bridge slightly to the north, allowing the existing bridge to remain open to traffic until the new bridge is complete in late 2015.

Orca Mother and Calf Return to Downtown Victoria

In May, an orca mother and calf returned to make downtown Victoria their annual summer home. Surfacing, the impressive four-metre tall and six-metre long garden display consisting of a mother and baby orca riding a wave, arrived by crane at the southeast corner of Humboldt and Government Streets.

Containing 15,000 plants, the unique garden display is designed to enhance Victoria’s downtown and is a popular photo opportunity for residents and many of the three million visitors to Victoria each year. To learn more, visit: www.victoria.ca/orcas

Get Your CITYVibe – Victoria’s Festival Guide for 2013

Looking for ways to connect with Victoria’s festivals and outdoor events this summer?

Available in hard copy and iPhone app, CITYVibe is your free guide to summer fun and includes dates, times, locations and descriptions of the many spectacular City-sponsored festivals and outdoor events downtown in 2013.

The guide and app also feature the popular Concerts in the Park listings, free afternoon concerts presented on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holiday Mondays until September 16 at the Cameron Bandshell in Beacon Hill Park. The Children’s Concerts in the Park series is offered on select Wednesdays in July and August from 11 a.m. – noon.

Centennial Square programming is also featured, including the City’s free Lunchtime Concerts on weekdays from noon to 1 p.m. until September 27, and a variety of dynamic festivals that celebrate music, dance and culture.

You’ll also find listings for Victoria’s public markets, and festivals and sporting events at Royal Athletic Park, Victoria’s outdoor sports stadium.

Available in hard copy and as an iPhone app, CITYVibe is your local library, recreation, community or seniors centre and at Victoria City Hall, or download the free iPhone app at the iTunes store. Under “Search” type in “cityvibe” or visit: www.victoria.ca/cityvibe

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Ben Isitt
Serving in his first term as a City Councillor, Ben is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhoods of Hillside, Quadra and Rocklands.
City Hall 250.361.0222
Email bissett@victoria.ca

Pamela Madoff
Pamela has served on City Council since 1993 and is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhoods of Fairfield/Gonzales.
City Hall 250.361.0221
Email pmadoff@victoria.ca

Charlayne Thornton-Joe
A City Councillor since 2002, Charlayne is the Councillor liaison to the neighbourhood of Burnside Gorge.
City Hall 250.361.0219
Email cthornton-joe@victoria.ca

Geoff Young
Served as a City Councillor from 1983 to 1999, and was elected again in 2005, Geoff is the Councillor liaison to the Fernwood neighbourhood.
City Hall 250.361.0220
Email gyoung@victoria.ca
City Makes the Grade in Health and Safety

This spring, the City of Victoria was awarded two Certificates of Recognition from the BC Municipal Safety Association (BCMSA) for high standards in occupational health and safety.

The program is offered through the BCMSA to municipalities that successfully complete an independent audit of occupational health and safety and return-to-work practices. The City participated in this audit last fall. Staff were selected randomly from all departments, and at every position level, for safety audit interviews. The City received 92% on the Health and Safety portion and 88% on the return to work portion.

The end result will not only ensure a safe and healthy work environment for City staff, but will also save the City money through an annual rebate on its WorkSafeBC premiums, with an estimated rebate of $100,000 for 2012.

Responsible Dog Ownership in the City of Victoria

In the City of Victoria, all dogs over the age of four months are required to have a licence from the municipality in which the owner resides. Dog licences ensure owner accountability, and act as identification for your dog. Hundreds of dogs are reunited with their owners in the City of Victoria each year because they were found wearing a current licence. A dog licence tells others your lost pet is not a stray and needs to be returned to its family.

You will often see Animal Control Officers at parks and other shared spaces working to ensure the needs of all park users are accommodated, including dogs, families, seniors and other members of the public. Animal Control Officers are authorized under the City’s Animal Control Bylaw to request identification from dog owners to ensure that each dog has a licence and is complying with all other aspects of the bylaw. If you are approached by an officer, you are required to cooperate with this request. The goal of officers is always voluntary compliance, and Animal Control Officers are happy to sell you a dog licence on location, using one of their mobile kiosks.

If you are new to the City, please contact Animal Control Services to exchange your 2013 dog licence from your previous city of residence for a City of Victoria licence at no charge.

For more information visit: www.vacs.ca or www.victoria.ca/dogs

HarbourCats

The boys of summer are back at Royal Athletic Park! The Victoria HarbourCats have made their home at the Park and have won over fans from around the region during their inaugural season. The Cats play in the West Coast League, a summer wood bat league for college-eligible student athletes. For more information or to buy tickets online visit: www.harbourcats.com

Bring Lawn Chairs to Victoria Symphony Splash, But Not Before Sunday

Join us for Symphony Splash, a spectacular event that brings over 40,000 people of all ages to the heart of downtown Victoria to enjoy a musical and community experience like no other.

Concert-goers are reminded that chaining lawn chairs to fencing along the causeways will be allowed leading up to the event, lawn chairs are not to be set up on the Upper and Lower Causeways until Sunday, August 4, starting at 8 a.m.

The event begins at 1 p.m. with the Splash Family Zone, and the opening act performance at 4 p.m. The concert’s grand finale at 9:30 p.m. will feature the 1812 Overture, accompanied by bells, cannons and fireworks.

Connect

Our Commitment to the Environment

Using 1.34 tonnes of Harbour 100% PCW paper instead of virgin fibres paper reduced our ecological footprint of:

- Tree(s): 15.6
- Solid waste: 687 Kg
- Water: 6,062 L
- Air emissions: 1,198 Kg

For more information or to provide feedback, please email connect@victoria.ca

City of Victoria

City Health and Safety Manager Rebecca Chow (center) and Mayor Dean Fortin receive Certificates of Recognition from the BCMSA

City Makes the Grade in Health and Safety

The BCMSA aims to improve worker health and safety through the sharing of knowledge and resources within local government. The City of Victoria is proud of the high standards achieved by staff in occupational health and safety, as well as return-to-work practices.