

In Your Neighbourhood

Pandora Protected Bike Lanes

At 6:00 a.m. on Monday May 1st, the City is opening Victoria's first protected bike lanes in the downtown core. The Pandora Avenue two-way protected bike lane is the first of five corridors that are designed to encourage and support riders of all ages and abilities. City staff and volunteers will be out on Pandora on Monday morning and throughout the next two weeks to share information and answer questions from road users. For those who want more instruction on how to use the facility, there will be orientation rides hosted by the Bike to Work Society throughout May and June 2017.

Please share the attached information or direct people to our website victoria.ca/cycling.

There are number of new features to watch for 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 turns will no longer be permitted at red lights along the corridor - there will be dedicated right-hand turn signals
 - Right hand turns will no longer be permitted from southbound roads to get on to the corridor – there will be dedicated right-hand turn signals
- 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

There are still some final elements to be implemented along Pandora Avenue, including the installation of new bollards in early May. There will also be temporary bike lane treatments on sections of the corridor directly in front of new developments at 1002 Pandora Avenue and 1515 Douglas Street until they are finished.

Mark your calendar for our special celebratory opening event –**Sunday May 14, 2017 from 11:30am – 1:30pm outside of City Hall**. This will be a great opportunity to try out the new bike lanes and learn more about local businesses and services in our community. Enjoy a slice of cake, take in the bicycle-themed activities, provide pedal-powered music, and enter our draw for a chance win some fabulous prizes.

Pop Up @The Square Design Competition – People's Choice Voting

Over 30 great ideas have been submitted for a temporary playable pop-up feature in Centennial Square. Pop by the Douglas Street foyer at City Hall or vote at haveyoursayvictoria.com between April 21-30 to vote for your favourite design. The People's Choice winner will receive \$1,000. The overall winner of the design competition will be selected by a jury and the playable feature will be installed in Centennial Square this summer. Winners will be announced on May 2.

Adoption of Visual Victoria Wayfinding Strategy

The City has adopted the Visual Victoria wayfinding strategy which aims to contribute to a memorable and positive image of Victoria based on its rich history and vision for the future, while enhancing its unique identity and supporting walkability, accessibility and usability. The strategy includes a three-year implementation plan that lays out the type and number of signs by general location based on an approved budget of \$152,000 for 2017, and a forecasted budget of \$100,000 for 2018. Staff will also work with the

Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation to explore opportunities to incorporate Lekwungen place-naming as part of the implementation of the wayfinding strategy.

Playing Courts

Many of the sport courts in Victoria need some maintenance work, such as lighting, refreshed lines and resurfacing. Priorities for short term improvements have been determined through a condition assessment, but we also want to hear from users on how the City should best spend the \$50,000 budget for maintenance for 2017. We will also want input into priorities for the next few years. A workshop will be held on Wednesday May 3 at City Hall from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Please RSVP to parkspermits@victoria.ca.

City Book Prize

Submissions are now being accepted for the \$5,000 City of [Victoria Butler Book Prize](#) and the \$5,000 Bolen Books Children's Book Prize. The Victoria Book Prize Society's annual fall gala showcases the literary achievements of authors and illustrators who make Greater Victoria their home. Books must have been published between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017. The deadline for submissions is May 12, 2017. For applications and guidelines visit www.victoriabookprizes.ca or www.victoria.ca. Shortlisted nominees for both prizes will be announced in September and authors will be showcased at a gala held at the Union Club of British Columbia on Wednesday, October 11, 2017.

Neighbour Day

Council approved a proclamation request from for Neighbour Day on Sunday, May 7. According to the proclamation, Neighbour Day is a day designated to residents opening their doors and getting to know their neighbours through a variety of social activities and engagements. For ideas on things to do and toolkits for an event, check their [website](#).

Neighbourhoods are also invited to do three things to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation. The campaign was started by a challenge from Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi to residents in cities across Canada to get involved in serving their communities. More information can be found at the [Three Things website](#).

Great Neighbourhood Grants Now Open!

The Great Neighbourhood program is currently open and actively receiving applications for the 2017 program. The City launched the program by hosting the inaugural **Neighbourhoods Ideas Fair** at City Hall April 19. The event included displays and presentations by both community partners and City staff focusing on creative ideas for placemaking and things to consider when planning a project in the public realm. This year's grants include new Activity grants of up to \$1000 with matching in kind funding from the applicant for a variety of themed activities including: social connection, education, diversity, celebration and neighbourhood improvement campaigns. More information can be found here: [My Great Neighbourhood Grants](#).

Victoria Housing Strategy Implementation – Secondary Suites

The City has made it easier for homeowners to build secondary suites by removing restrictions in zoning that limited the amount of exterior changes that could be made to a building containing a secondary suite. These zoning changes will increase the number of properties eligible for secondary suites while still maintaining livability, safety and affordability. Read the staff report [here](#).

Provincial All Candidates Meeting

Join us for a Provincial All-Candidates meeting on Thursday, May 4 from 5 to 7 pm at the Victoria Conference Centre. We are hosting the event in partnership with the DVBA, Tourism Victoria, Greater



May 2017 Update

Oaklands

Victoria Chamber of Commerce, Greater Victoria Harbour Authority and the Urban Development Institute (Pacific Region).

Staying in Touch

- For information on other key initiatives at the City, check [here](#) and . follow the links for details.
- You can also download the [ConnectVictoria app](#) and stay up to date on latest news, jobs and events. Through the app, you can contact the City and submit a service request like a streetlight outage or pothole.
- [Council Highlights](#) provides a snapshot of the progress made on City programs, initiatives and on Council decision-making. [Email staff](#) if you would like to subscribe to the highlights.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole will meet May 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 9 a.m. and Council will meet May 11 and 25 at 6:30 p.m.