

May 7, 2021

Columbia Avenue Redevelopment Project – Phase 2

Weekly Update

Over the last week, the contractor continued water service installations, water main testing, storm sewer installation and completed line painting at the north end of the project (from 18th to 20th Street and the Highway 3 ramps).

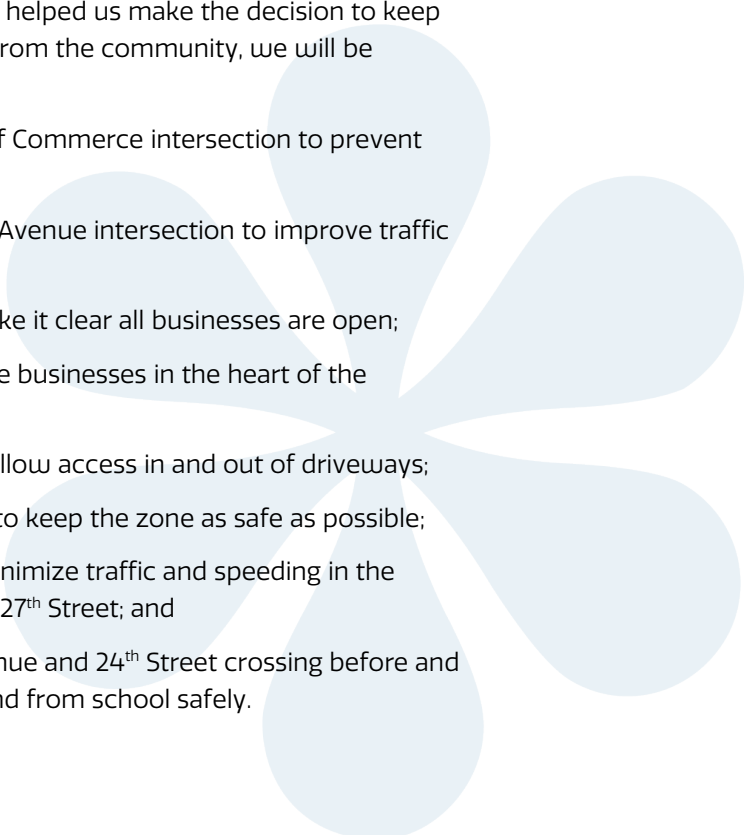
In the next week, you can expect to see:

- Storm main installation from 22nd Street, heading south;
- Water servicing and tie-ins between 21st and 23rd Streets;
- FortisBC upgrading gas services; and
- Catch basin installations near 22nd Street.

Traffic

When the contractor requested an extension of the detour which currently takes northbound traffic from Columbia Avenue to 6th Avenue from 20th to 24th Street, we knew what to do - chat with the people who would be most impacted. We want to sincerely thank everyone who took the time to chat, email or call and share feedback with us.

We heard directly from over 100 people. This input helped us make the decision to keep the detour in place and, based on what we heard from the community, we will be improving the detour by:

- Extending traffic control at the Chamber of Commerce intersection to prevent congestion;
 - Adding flaggers at the 24th Street and 6th Avenue intersection to improve traffic flow;
 - Adding larger and more visible signs to make it clear all businesses are open;
 - Encouraging the community to support the businesses in the heart of the construction;
 - Encouraging drivers to be courteous and allow access in and out of driveways;
 - Enforcing speeding and distracted driving to keep the zone as safe as possible;
 - Introducing traffic calming measures to minimize traffic and speeding in the residential area of 6th Avenue, from 24th to 27th Street; and
 - Adding traffic control at the Columbia Avenue and 24th Street crossing before and after school to ensure all children get to and from school safely.
- 

The detour replaces single-lane alternating traffic, keeps traffic flowing and minimizes delays, improves safety by giving workers and equipment more space, and improves productivity by detouring traffic away from the construction activities. During the detour, drivers are asked to:

- avoid blocking entrances to the Ambulance and Fire Halls to ensure timely response to emergencies.
- be courteous and stop to let drivers in and out of businesses and houses.

Did you know?

- The contractor has installed over 1400 meters of water main.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Bree Seabrook, bseabrook@castlegar.ca or 250 304 8133

