

In Your Neighbourhood

Crosswalk Improvements

At Council's April 26 meeting, the allocation of \$70,000 from the Accessibility Reserve Fund was directed towards the installation of audible/accessible pedestrian signals including at the Quadra and Caledonia and Quadra and Fisgard intersections. The latter had previously been identified as a 2019 project. Council approved a resolution to expedite accessibility improvements in the City of Victoria and completing the City's Accessibility Framework in 2018.

953 Balmoral

Also at the April 26 meeting, Council considered a report on a Rezoning and Development Permit application to construct a four-storey multi-unit building consisting of approximately 11 rental units at 953 Balmoral. Council directed staff to:

- Work with the applicant to refine the proposal to encourage a better fit with the current neighbourhood context and to minimize potential negative impacts associated with a piecemeal approach to development in this area.
- Work with the applicant to revise the proposal to comply with the design guidelines and
 - Minimize the impact of the east side yard setback by reducing the requested variance and by introducing additional design interventions to mitigate potential concerns related to privacy and overlook.
 - Reduce the site coverage and increase the open site space in order to provide private open space and high quality soft landscaping.
 - Provide a landscaping strip along the side and rear property lines to screen the parking.
 - Address Council's issue of the lack of affordability in this application and revisit discussions of entering into a housing agreement.
- Refer the application to the Advisory Design Panel and report back to the Committee of the Whole following a review by the panel.

Neighbourhood Webpages

The City has refreshed its [neighbourhood webpages](#). Please take a look at the information and let us know if there is something you would like to see included or amended. We will begin posting the monthly updates in the near future.

Honorary Citizen Award

Do you know someone that makes our community a better place? Nominate them for an [Honorary Citizen Award!](#) Honorary Citizen Awards celebrate those who have performed outstanding service for the betterment of our community, and personal achievements. Nominees must be a current or former resident of the local First Nations or the Capital Region. Deadline for nominations is May 25. [Learn more](#)

Short-Term Rental Business Licences

New regulations allow short-term rentals for eligible operators, subject to a Business Licence and compliance with operating requirements. Eligible operators must have a Short-Term Rental Business Licence. To learn more about the process, [click here](#).



May 2018 Update

North Park

Gorge Waterway Update

In early March, the BC Supreme Court ruled that the City of Victoria has the authority to regulate the Gorge Waterway. Last year the City sought an injunction to require owners to remove their vessels and docks that were illegally moored in the waterway. As a result of the ruling, vessel and dock owners must remove their property from the Gorge Waterway by May 7, 2018. Learn more [here](#).

Amalgamation

At their Committee of the Whole meeting on April 28, Council will discuss a [report and recommendation](#) "that Saanich and Victoria hold a joint Committee of the Whole meeting to determine which question both local governments will place on the October 20, 2018 municipal election ballot in order to receive elector assent to explore the costs and benefits of the amalgamation between the District of Saanich and the City of Victoria."

BYO Bag Victoria Video Contest

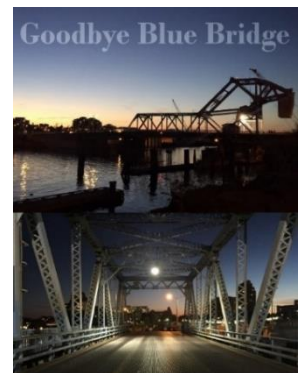
Love making videos? Want to help reduce plastic bag litter and waste in your community? Create a video to encourage the use of reusable bags in our community and win up to \$1,000! There is one Youth category and one All Ages category, plus a People's Choice Award. Submit your video by May 30, 2018. Learn more at victoria.ca/reusablebags

2018 Victoria Book Prizes

Submissions are now being accepted until May 22 for the 2018 [Victoria Book Prizes](#). The prizes include the \$5,000 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize and the \$5,000 Bolen Books Children's Book Prize. Celebrating its 15th year, the Victoria Book Prize Society's annual fall awards gala showcases the literary achievements of authors and illustrators who make Greater Victoria their home.

Hello New, Goodbye Blue

The new Johnson Street Bridge opened to traffic Saturday, March 31, following an official opening and community celebration event. The project is fully completed later this summer. View a video recap of the bridge replacement [here](#).



Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets May [3](#), 10, 17 and 24 9am. Council meets May [3](#), 10 and 24 beginning at 6:30pm. To view a webcast in process along with the related agenda, click to view the HTML version of the agenda.