

# COMMUNITY FOCUS

JANUARY 2010



NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR CENTRAL SAANICH

## NEW YEARS GREETINGS FROM COUNCIL

*Welcome to the second decade of the 21st Century! As we enter 2010, many of us are focused on the upcoming Winter Olympics in Vancouver and the victories our athletes will achieve there. But your Council is also looking forward to more achievements closer to home.*

*As the New Year begins, one of your Council's continuing goals is to ensure that our public facilities continue to be efficient and effective. We are preparing to move ahead with improvements on several fronts. One of the most significant will be to proceed with plans for a second Fire Hall to serve the District, at a site yet to be determined in the Keating area. We'll also be looking at possible redevelopment of the Municipal Hall site. Look for more news on that as the year proceeds.*

*There will be lots of the usual construction activity ahead this year, including a significant upgrading of East Saanich Road. Construction will begin later this year and last through to early 2012, resulting in improved bike lanes, sidewalks and traffic flow through that important corridor.*

*We will also begin implementing our new Integrated Stormwater Management Plan with several projects planned this year to ensure that we continue to be good stewards of the land we live on.*

*Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped develop these initiatives. The residents and business owners of our District have a deserved reputation for taking an active role in our community and we are grateful for that.*

*Very best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous 2010!*

## EAST SAANICH ROAD RENEWAL SET TO GET UNDERWAY IN 2010

One of the largest roadway improvement projects in recent years is moving into the design stage and the municipality is looking for comments and suggestions from local residents and businesses to help complete the final design.

The East Saanich Road Renewal Initiative is funded by the federal and provincial governments and Central Saanich. The proposed upgrading includes adding sidewalks, bike lanes and improving bus stops along a 2.7 kilometre stretch of East Saanich Road, from Island View Road to Cultra Avenue. The primary value of the upgrades is improved safety for pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders as they move through the area, which is an important traffic corridor in the eastern part of Central Saanich.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$7 million. The District has been approved for a grant of two-thirds of the amount, or \$4,666,666, by the Federal and Provincial governments under the Build Canada Fund – Community Component. The remaining one-third will be funded from borrowing as approved during the 2009 budget process, and will be repaid over a 15-year term. The current interest rate for this borrowing is 4.84 per cent, which calls for an annual payment of \$229,463 over the life of the loan. This annual amount equates to an increase of approximately \$5.73 per \$100,000 of assessed value for residential properties, or \$28 on a property assessed at \$487,000.

Under the terms of the federal/provincial agreement, all renewal work must be completed by March 2012.

The planned work includes adding sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the road through urban areas (where feasible from Hovey Road north to Cultra Avenue), and one sidewalk with bike lanes on both sides through the rural areas (which run from Hovey Road south to Island View). In addition, some intersections are likely to be upgraded and there may be some turning lanes added along the route. If the design allows for it, it's possible that there will be some bus pullouts added at transit stops.

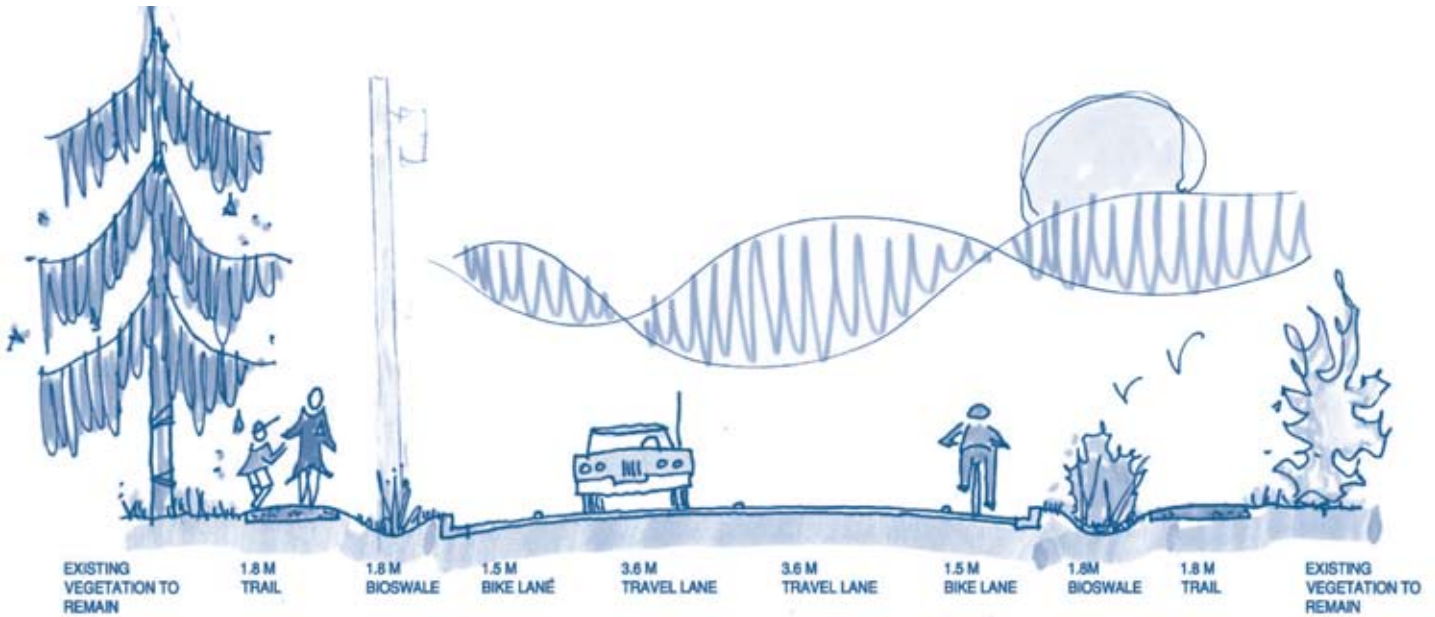
Also planned are significant improvements to the area around Tetayut Creek, where East Saanich Road crosses the waterway. Possible plans are to construct some versions of fish ladders to improve the movement of fish through the area. Complete details won't be established until further environmental assessments are complete.

The road renewal plans will also take into account recommendations and guidelines in the recently adopted Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP) for Central Saanich. That plan recommends controls and road water management as well, so swales along East Saanich Road will be included in the project design.

When complete, the East Saanich Road Renewal Project will complement a smaller but similar roadway upgrading which will be completed in early 2010 on another section of East Saanich Road from Polo Park Crescent to the North Saanich border. That project includes adding bike lanes and a separate walking

*(continued on following page)*

*The proposed upgrades include sidewalks, bike lanes & bus stops*



trail to allow for a new pedestrian and cycling connection into North Saanich to the new Kelset School.

Engineering firm First Team Engineering was awarded the design contract in September. They've completed an Environmental Assessment and an Archeological Assessment of the project, and

presented an informational overview of the project to Central Saanich Council in November.

If everything proceeds according to the schedule outlined in the original request for proposals, the first of two Public Open Houses on the project will be held in February, when it's expected that the design work will be about 50 percent complete. The public will be invited to comment on the design work done to that point as well as make suggestions on the overall project. The feedback from that meeting will allow the designers to proceed with producing another version of the design.

All property owners affected on East Saanich Road will receive personal invitations to the Open Houses and other residents in the area are encouraged to attend.

A revised design will then be presented to Council and a second and final Open House is expected to be held in early summer, 2010. Assuming all goes well, construction tenders will be let this summer, with some construction possible in the fall. The bulk of the construction activity will take place throughout 2011, with an expected completion of March 2012.

*The bulk of construction will take place in 2011, complete by March 2012*

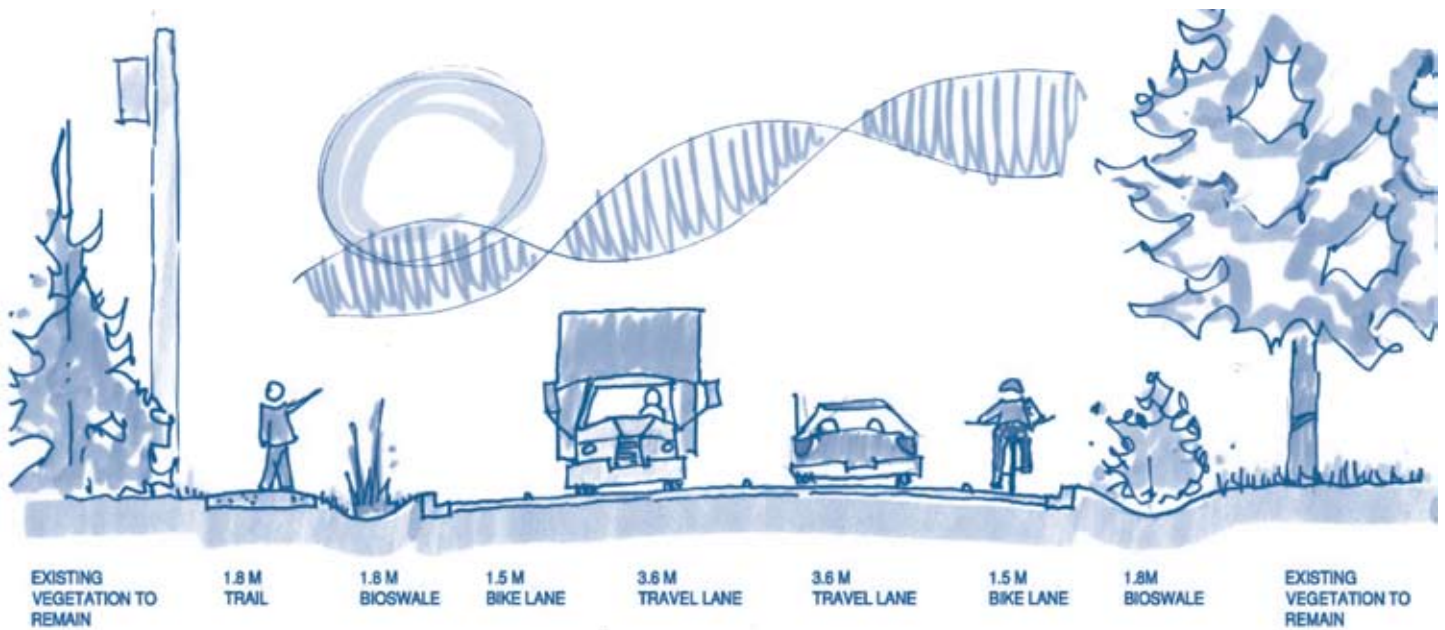
During the construction period, District staff are predicting that local residents won't face too much disruption. The construction will be done in stages along the route. There will be areas where traffic will be slowed but by and large, they are confident that the upgrades will not cause major disruptions. However, the construction cycle will be lengthy, given the scope of the project.

The upgrading for East Saanich Road has been part of the municipality's capital plans for a while. In 2002, Central Saanich completed a Transportation Planning Study, which included a review of East Saanich Road. Many of the components that will be included in the current project were identified in that study.

Proposed timeline for the East Saanich Road Renewal Project.	
<b>June, 2009</b>	Central Saanich received funding for the East Saanich Road Renewal project through the Building Canada Fund – Community Component
<b>September, 2009</b>	First Team Engineering awarded tender for design work
<b>November, 2009</b>	Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Archeological Overview completed
<b>November, 2009</b>	First project report to Central Saanich Council
<b>February, 2010</b>	First Open House to consider preliminary design
<b>May, 2010</b>	Near-final designs presented to Council
<b>June, 2010</b>	Second Open House on project design
<b>August, 2010</b>	Construction tenders awarded
<b>Late Fall 2010</b>	Possible construction begins
<b>2011</b>	Construction proceeds in stages along road throughout the year
<b>March 2012</b>	Construction complete



The full Council agenda package is available at the Municipal Hall and the Central Saanich Library.



However, because of the cost, it was recommended at the time to phase the projects over a longer time period.

But when the federal government decided to make infrastructure renewal programs a priority for spurring economic activity in the wake of the worldwide economic slowdown, the East Saanich Road project gained a new viability.

When city staff reviewed the criteria for the infrastructure program, the East Saanich Road Renewal proposals were just the type of project that the federal program was intended to support. When

the entire project is completed, it will significantly improve the traffic flow and safety for vehicular traffic that uses that section of road.

As a result of the construction, some of the hedgerows and trees along the roadway will have to be trimmed or removed. And in some cases, the new bike lanes and sidewalks could affect some landowner's driveways. But the designers are aware of the need to minimize the impact on existing vegetation and are working hard to accomplish that.

## POLICE CELEBRATE 1<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNITY BALL

The First Annual Police Community Ball, which was held on Oct. 24, 2009, was a remarkable success, raising more than \$3,000 for the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation and delivering a great evening of entertainment



The Community Ball was organized by Central Saanich Police Services in the hopes of nurturing an event to bring police officers and community residents together for a social evening while benefiting a local charitable organization. The Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation was a perfect choice as a fundraising partner.

Over 260 people showed up for a buffet dinner from Four Mile Catering and entertainment by the Timebenders. Plans are already underway for the Second Annual event on Oct. 23, 2010. Mark your calendars!

## CLOTHES DRYER SAFETY

A clothes dryer fire is a frightening and all-too-common occurrence. However, in most cases, fires can be prevented with a bit of regular maintenance.

Dryer fires occur when lint builds up in the dryer or in the exhaust duct. Lint can block the flow of air, causing excessive heat build-up that can result in a fire.

For dryer safety tips, see [www.centrialsaanich.ca](http://www.centrialsaanich.ca).

## WINTER REMINDER: CLEAR YOUR SNOW AND ICE

Although we enjoy a temperate climate here in Central Saanich, the snow does fly – and stick – from time to time. And when it does, the District Bylaw requires property owners and residents to clear snow and ice within 24 hours from in front of your property.

Not only is it required – it's also the neighbourly thing to do. If you have elderly or physically challenged neighbours, give them a hand and clean their walks too.

When snow does arrive, Central Saanich has a plowing schedule that kicks into gear. Streets are cleared in a priority order after each

snowfall. The municipality makes every effort to keep major streets open and clear snow from as many residential streets as possible.

For further information, please visit our website at [www.centrialsaanich.ca](http://www.centrialsaanich.ca) and look for the new Snow & Ice information page. There, you'll find the street-clearing schedule, as well as lots of helpful tips for winter preparedness.

Severe weather can cause problems to develop quickly. Make sure that you're prepared for whatever might come our way this winter.

Click on the District's user-friendly website at [www.centrialsaanich.ca](http://www.centrialsaanich.ca) to check out the latest news

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Council Meetings Schedule

Residents are always welcome to attend Council and Committee meetings. Meetings start at 7 pm and are held in the Council Chamber, Central Saanich Municipal Hall, 1903 Mount Newton Cross Road. An agenda package is available on the Friday before each meeting.

Regular Council Meetings

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the first and third Monday of the month.

## Regular Committee Meetings

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the second and fourth Monday of the month.

## Don't Forget Your Best Friend's Licence

Dog licence renewal fees are due February 1st. A penalty will be applied to overdue accounts. Call 250-544-4206 for more information.

## Prepay Your Taxes and Earn Interest

Taxpayers can earn interest on property tax prepayments made before March 31. Call 250-544-4206 for more information.

## Stay On Track With Pre-authorized Payments

Save time with convenient pre-authorized payment programs for both property taxes and utility bill payments. Call 250-544-4206 for more information.

## It's Time To Get Flushed

Water mains and hydrants will be flushed January through March. Temporary discoloration of water and/or low water pressure may occur and is not a health hazard. If you notice murky water from your taps, fill your laundry or bathtub and re-use the water for a non-drinking purpose. The water department will provide advance notice of flushing on request to anyone with special

requirements for water clarity. Flushing will not take place during freezing temperatures. Call 250-544-4224 x221 for more information.

## New location for Central Saanich Soft Plastics Recycling Depot

Residents can now drop off their soft plastic items the 4th Saturday of each month from 9 am - 12 pm at Stelly's High School. Previously it was held at the Municipal Hall.

## Visit The Central Saanich Senior Citizen's Centre

'50+ are welcome to two free sessions of one of the many activities or socials at our Central Saanich Seniors Centre 1229 Clarke Road, Brentwood Bay, adjacent to the library. Aerobics, floor shuffleboard, birthday teas, card games and carpet bowling are just a few activities that we have to offer. Annual membership is \$40.00. Phone 250-652-4611 for further information.



## DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton BC V8M 2A9  
Tel: 250-652-4444 Fax: 250-652-0135  
E-mail: [municipalhall@csaanich.ca](mailto:municipalhall@csaanich.ca)  
Website: [www.centralsaanich.ca](http://www.centralsaanich.ca)

### GET IN TOUCH WITH MAYOR & COUNCIL

We'd like to hear from you if you have ideas, opinions or thoughts to share. Letters addressed to Mayor Jack Mar and Council are included in the Council meeting agenda. You may also speak to your letter at the meeting. Send your letter by 12 noon on the Wednesday before a Council meeting. Drop off your letter to the Municipal Hall, fax it to 250-652-0135 or e-mail it to: [municipalhall@csaanich.ca](mailto:municipalhall@csaanich.ca). Letters should include your name and address.

### CALL OR SEND US AN E-MAIL

You're also welcome to call or e-mail Councillors directly regarding District issues. See the adjacent column for phone numbers or send an e-mail to: [firstname.lastname@csaanich.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@csaanich.ca). Councillor Mason can be reached at [clanmason@shaw.ca](mailto:clanmason@shaw.ca)

### CRD ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE

The CRD provides animal control and pound-keeping services for the District. For more info, call: CRD Animal Control: 250-478-0624 or CRD Animal Shelter: 250-658-5745

### BRENTWOOD BAY – MILL BAY FERRY SCHEDULE

Enjoy the most beautiful shortcut on Vancouver Island! Crossing Time: 25 minutes. Fares are payable in cash or travellers' cheques only. Commuter tickets are available. Discount tickets (30% savings) available at Thrifty Foods.

Leave Brentwood Bay		Leave Mill Bay	
*7:30 am	2:25 pm	*8:05am	3:00 pm
8:40 am	3:35 pm	9:15 am	4:10 pm
9:50 am	4:45 pm	10:25 am	5:20 pm
11:00 am	5:55 pm	11:35 am	6:30 pm
1:15 pm	1:50 pm		

\* Daily except Sundays

### COUNCIL

Mayor Jack Mar Chair of Municipal Council & Central Saanich Police Board 250-652-8449

### Councillors

Alastair Bryson	Planning & Development Committee	250-544-0668
John Garrison	Administration & Finance Committee	250-544-1033
Ron Kubek	Parks & Facilities Committee	250-544-2929
Susan Mason	Community & Protective Services Committee	250-652-0783
Adam Olsen	Water & Waste Management Committee	250-889-7678
Terry Siklenka	Public Works & Transportation Committee	250-508-8313

Visit [www.centralsaanich.ca](http://www.centralsaanich.ca) for additional committee, commission and board positions.

### MUNICIPAL STAFF

Gary C. Nason	Administrator	250-544-4201
Sara Ribero/Susan Brown	Municipal Clerks	250-544-4202
Rosalyn Tanner	Director of Financial Services	250-544-4207
Nirmal Bhattacharya	Municipal Engineer	250-544-4210
Hope V. Burns	Director of Planning & Building Services	250-544-4209
Bonnie McKenzie	Manager of Community Services	250-544-4218
Ron French	Fire Chief	250-544-4227
Paul Hames	Chief Constable	250-652-4441
Norman Doerksen	Superintendent of Public Works	250-544-4224

### OTHER MUNICIPAL CONTACTS

General Information/Mayor's Office	250-652-4444
Building Inspections/Bylaw Enforcement	250-544-4217
Property Taxes/Utility Billing	250-544-4206
Accounts Payable	250-544-4205
Park Use Reservation	250-544-4218
Municipal Yard/Public Works - 1703 Keating Cross Road	
Public Services & Parks Maintenance	250-544-4224
After Hours Emergency	250-652-4441