COMMUNITY FOCUS May 2025



We acknowledge and thank the WSÁNEĆ people on whose traditional territory we live, play, learn and grow.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL

Central Saanich is investing nearly \$30 million this year to upgrade roads, buildings, sewer systems, and more. This is part of a long-term strategy to ensure the community's essential services are safe, efficient, and sustainable. Thanks to careful planning and our Asset Management Plan, we are confident in our ability to fund these upgrades through substantial savings and using debt when needed.

This year, while significant water and sewer system upgrades are underway, we're improving road safety (see page 2). We are also planning how to best replace the Municipal Hall, Police Station, Fire Station 2, and Municipal Yard, which have safety, seismic, and accessibility issues. Because this project was identified as coming due 20

years ago, we are in a strong financial position to replace these facilities now. We believe we can build facilities for all services, including the Municipal Yard, with no additional property tax increases.

We heard from some residents they feel strongly about keeping municipal facilities on the current site at 1903 Mount

Newton Cross Road. Given community

feedback, our Council has requested that in addition to the two concepts for Hovey Road (one option will include recreation facilities), there be a concept and financial estimate for rebuilding at 1903 Mount Newton. The concepts and cost estimates will be presented to the community in June alongside the cost of renovations and detailed information about the buildings' needed upgrades.

The District has set out to ensure the redevelopment project has minimal impact on taxpayers and sets the community up for long-term financial health. We are also reflecting on community feedback on this and other projects to sensitively integrate housing and amenities, such as recreation and medical offices. A continued focus is ensuring 1903 Mount Newton contributes to a vibrant community.

We look forward to hearing what you think about the options. This is a unique opportunity to bring more amenities and gathering spaces to the community in a manner that Central Saanich can afford now and in the future.

Watch for June dates and subscribe to project updates at LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/CivicRedevelopment.

We heard you loud and clear



We are thrilled to announce our new phone system is voice activated!

Simply speak your request and our system will direct your call to the right department.

Did you know? **Central Saanich has more** than half a billion dollars in District-owned assets that's roads, buildings, sewer systems and more.

Community bike rides are back!

Come out and meet your neighbours on a fun, free community ride with Capital Bike! Fun routes, great leaders. Register at: CapitalBike.ca/CentralSaanich

Sun, May 25 – Family-friendly ride to Splash Pad Opening! Sat, Jun. 14 – E-bike ride to the Peninsula Country Market Sun, Jun. 22 – Nature ride + coffee shop stop Sat, Aug. 30 – Family-friendly ride to the Saanich Fair! Sat, Sep. 6 – E-bike ride + farmstand stop Sun, Sep. 14 – Nature ride + coffee shop stop



Central Saanich Flavour Trail

The inaugural Central Saanich Flavour Trail takes place on July 12 and 13! Enjoy a self-guided tour of local farms, wineries, cideries, gardens, and more. Learn more at FlavourTrails.com.



Speed reduction coming to a street near you

We know that higher speeds increase the risk and severity of crashes. This summer and fall, please be aware of reduced speed limits in our community and enforcement by the Central Saanich Police. Slower speeds help all of us get where we're going safely. **CSaanich.ca/SpeedLimits**

Look out for new road markings

Have you spotted these road markings in our community? Here's what they mean! CSaanich.ca/RoadMarkings



Elephant's feet

What it means: Dotted lines parallel to crosswalk mean cyclists do not need to dismount, like they do at a regular crosswalk.

What to do: Slow down and only cross when it is safe.



Sharrows

What it means: Chevrons show that cyclists and drivers share the lane where there isn't width for bike lanes. What to do: Drivers, limite speed and give cyclists as much space as possible (min. 1m if 50 km/h or less).



Green pavement

What it means: Green paint highlights busy areas where cyclists and drivers cross paths. What to do: Pay extra attention to other road users.



Shared pathway

What it means: This symbol shows that people walking, rolling, cycling and riding animals all share the path. What to do: Control your speed, alert when passing, give plenty of space and yield to slower pathway users.

Spotlight on road safety projects

We're looking closely at road safety as aging infrastructure gets replaced. Where there is budget and space, road works projects are an opportunity to help everyone in our community walk, roll, bike, drive and take transit more safely and easily.

How are improvements prioritized?

We consider plans like the Active Transportation Plan, community feedback, road safety concerns, network gaps, anticipated use, infrastructure projects, funding, and data from partners like BC Transit to prioritize projects. Do you have a suggestion? Please email engineering@csaanich.ca



flashing beacons

Completed

- Mount Newton Pathway Phase 1 (Lochside Dr to Highway 17)
- Wallace Dr (West Saanich Rd to Stelly's Secondary School)
- Mount Newton Cross Rd at Central Saanich Rd
- Wallace Dr at Hovey Rd
- East Saanich Rd at Jeffrey Rd
- East Saanich Rd at Polo Park Cres
- Tanner Rd at Sunnyslope Dr



Planned

- Mount Newton Pathway Phase 2 (Highway 17 to Saanichton Village)
- Wallace Dr (Cultra Ave to Saanichton Village)
- Saanich Cross Rd (Central Saanich Rd to East Saanich Rd)
- Wallace Dr at Willow Way Trail
- Wallace Dr at Cultra Ave



More to come!



First Nations & Central Saanich working together

STÁUTW (Tsawout) First Nation and the Central Saanich Emergency Program worked together this spring to install 180 reflective address signs, update address data for quick emergency response times and share information about emergency plans, kits, smoke alarms and FireSmart. Thanks to the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program for making this initiative possible for STÁUTW Band members.

The next step is underway to work with WJOŁEŁP (Tsartlip) First Nation on updating address data for residents.

Is it easy to spot your address in the dark?

Order your reflective address sign! We've delivered and helped install 350+ signs and counting. Learn more and order your sign at **CSaanich.ca/reflectivesign.**



Infrastructure project updates

Brentwood sewer system upgrades

The Brentwood sewer system, serving half of our municipality's wastewater needs, has received a significant upgrade. Final paving on Wallace Drive is complete! Remaining pump station upgrades are underway. Launched in April 2024, this critical project is a major investment in our community's infrastructure for decades to come. Thank you to Central Saanich residents and businesses for patience and support during this vital work.

Saanichton water main

Our water main is at the end of its life span and is getting replaced in sections. The current phase of the project is underway on Wallace Drive, from Blossom Park to Lisnoe Avenue. Work is on track to be completed this summer, along with a new crosswalk at Cultra Avenue, a sidewalk to Saanichton Village, bus stop accessibility improvements, and continued bike lanes. **CSaanich.ca/WaterMain**

Tanner Road improvements

After the Province's Keating Cross Overpass Project is complete, road safety improvements are planned for Tanner Road at the same time as a necessary water main replacement. The project is currently in preliminary design to see what is possible within space and budget constraints. **CSaanich.ca/TannerRoad**

Do you walk, ride, roll, drive, or take the bus in Tanner Ridge? Please join us for an information session about proposed improvements to Tanner Road and an opportunity to share your ideas! Sunday, May 25. Details to come!

2025 property taxes are due July 2

Property owners: Please expect your tax notice by mail around the end of May; if you have not received it by early June, contact us at 250.544.4206. To learn more about ways to pay, the property tax deferment program and how to claim your home owner grant, visit

CSaanich.ca/PropertyTax or the Municipal Hall.

Climate action update



Thinking about home renovations?

Take advantage of excellent support for your next project. Find out more about the popular Heat Pump Financing Program and a new incentive, starting this summer, to get your EnerGuide Home Assessment for \$99 + tax (a savings of over \$500).

Interested? Space is limited! Email climate@csaanich.ca or call 250.652.4444.



Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Adaptation Plan

Thank you for your input so far! We've heard from hundreds of residents through Survey #1, community events, workshops, and focus groups. Please keep an eye out for Survey #2 in the coming months:

LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/ClimateAdaptation



Community learning & events

Meet Your Street returns!

Team up with a neighbour and apply for \$250 to host a block party! Priority given to emergency preparedness and FireSmart themes. Apply: **CSaanich.ca/MeetYourStreet**

May 3 - FireSmart plant program launch & BBQ

It's Wildfire Community Preparedness Day! Come by for a free BBQ and stock up on wildfire-resilient plants. Join us at Buckerfield's, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

May 8 - Emergency preparedness for businesses

Drop in to the monthly Brentwood 5:05 Business Club for a free talk to help business owners think about planning for emergencies. Fire Station 1, 5:05 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

May 10 - FireSmart your garden

Learn about beautiful, wildfire-resilient landscaping to help protect your home. Fire Station 1, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Register: **CSaanich.ca/Events**



May 29 - Extreme heat & wildfires

Learn how to prepare for the hottest days of summer to protect yourself and loved ones. Fire Station 1, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Register: **CSaanich.ca/Events**

May & June - FireSmart mobile chipping

Do you have yard debris? Watch for a print invitation to book a free, convenient house call with the mobile chipper!

- May 31 Haldon Rd-Newton Heights-Thomson Pl-Mount Newton Cross Rd
- June 14 Mount Newton Cross Rd-Rae Leigh Pl-West Saanich Rd-Alec Rd
- June 28 Greig Ave-Amwell Dr-Garden Gate Dr-Benvenuto Ave-Wallace Dr

June 18 - Retrofit your home

Find out how to make your home more comfortable and energy-efficient while balancing costs. Cultural Centre, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Register: **CSaanich.ca/Events**

Stay informed!

Subscribe for District updates at CSaanich.ca/Subscribe.

Connect with Council

Council meetings are open to the public and are conducted in a hybrid in-person and virtual format. To view meeting calendar, agendas, watch or participate in meetings, see: CSaanich.ca/CouncilMeetings.

Enjoy summer FUN!



May 25 - Splash Pad Opening

The brand-new splash pad at Centennial Park is officially opening to help you beat the heat!

Come by 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for ice cream.

Join a free, family-friendly ride at 9:30 a.m. to the splash pad. Register at CSaanich.ca/Events



June 1 - GoByBike Celebration Station

Come check out our brand-new multi-use pathway! Join us 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in front of McDonald's on the Lochside Regional Trail.

Spring GoByBike Week is May 31 to June 6.
Register and track your rides! GoByBike.ca



June 7 - Brentwood Festival

Lions pancake breakfast, a parade, live entertainment, display booths and vendors!
All day at HEL, HILE Park. **BrentwoodBay.info**



June 7 - Oct 11 - Peninsula Country Market

Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Fairgrounds. peninsulacountrymarket.ca

Take two wheels! On June 14, join a free community bike ride at 10:00 a.m. to the market. Register: CSaanich.ca/Events



July & August - Music in the Park

Bring a lawn chair and have a picnic or check out the food vendors! Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in HEL, HILE Park. **BrentwoodBay.info**



July & August - Play in the Park

Join the summer fun with games and a giant obstacle course! Thursdays, 5:30-8:00 p.m, at HEL, HILE (Park (July) and Centennial Park (August). **PanoramaRecreation.ca**



August 16 - Outdoor Movie Night

E.T. is this year's classic movie! Food vendors, live entertainment and activities start at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. **saanichtonvillage.com**For kids: Bring your own bike for fun activities and the chance to win prizes!



August 30 to September 1 - Saanich Fair

A summer highlight since 1868! **SaanichFair.ca** Skip traffic this year and walk, roll, ride, or take a bus right to the entrance. Free, secure bike parking!



1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9 250.652.4444 | Municipal.Hall@CSaanich.ca | CentralSaanich.ca