

June 25, 2020

Outdoor pop-up info booth proves popular for updates on Highway 19A construction

Questions about construction plans, the Rockland Road closure and how the waterfront stretch of Highway 19A will look when work is complete, were top of mind at two outdoor public information booths hosted by the City of Campbell River this month.

Approximately 60 people stopped by the booth at Rotary Daybreak Park on June 17 and 23, to share information about the work that's underway, and what people can expect when it's finished.

"It was great to see people stopping by to ask questions about this important project," said Mayor Andy Adams, who also made a stop to connect with community members. "This booth gave us a chance to share timely information about all the exciting work this summer has in store with the community at a safe physical distance."

On June 22, construction work started at the south end of the construction zone. Rockland Road is now closed until further notice to vehicle traffic, though pedestrian access will be maintained. The Highway 19A Upgrades project will include new underground services (water, sewer, storm) for approximately one kilometre between Simms Creek and Big Rock Boat Ramp, as well as a new centre turn lane, new park spaces and parking areas, improved seawalk and new sidewalks on the west side of the highway. This portion of work is two-thirds funded by provincial and federal grants, awarded in 2018.

At the information booth, the City's project team was able to answer questions about the new Rockland roundabout that will be constructed in the fall as part of this project. To address the safety hazard at Rockland Road and Highway 19A, a roundabout was selected because it allows traffic flow to continue, is significantly more affordable than traffic lights, has fewer environmental impacts and provides the needed safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians through this corridor.

"We thank everyone who came by to talk about the work to come. It's a priority for all of us to make sure the community is informed, both about the impacts in the short term and about all the great new amenities we can look forward to when it's finished," said deputy city manager Ron Neufeld.

Due to the risk of spreading COVID-19, the City cancelled an open house that had been planned for March this year. The pop-up info booths were established to allow the team leading the Waterfront Project 2018-2020 to connect in-person with people wanting information.

For more information on the projects and what's to come, visit CampbellRiver.ca/Construction.

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Contact: Ron Neufeld, Deputy City Manager 250-286-5765