

October 14, 2010

First Day of Paving is Complete on the South Island Highway 19A Upgrade Project

Paving successfully began on the South Island Highway 19A Upgrade project on Wednesday Oct. 13.

Crews from Tayco Paving, working in coordination with general contractor Uplands Excavating, began in the morning near the intersection of Hilchey Road and Highway 19A, and continued north. Paving work began under an overcast sky that gradually cleared. By afternoon, crews were working under clear sunny skies.

In the first day of paving operations, Tayco was able to lay the 60mm thick base mat from Hilchey Road to Simms Creek on the northbound lane and from Hilchey Road to Simms Road on the southbound lane for a total estimated quantity of 800 tonnes of asphalt having been laid in the first day of paving.

Ron Neufeld, general manager of operations for the City of Campbell River praised the progress made on day one. *"We are very pleased with our first day of progress. The weather cooperated, crews worked efficiently, and we are moving ahead. Again, weather is a variable, but at this point the project schedule is looking good."*

Paving began one day later than planned due to wet weather. Weekend rain had disturbed the road base, and crews had to re-grade the surface to achieve proper smoothness, densities and elevations required for paving.

Paving will continue for the next two weeks. Once the roadway work is complete, paving of the Seawalk will follow. After that, the concrete sidewalk work will be completed. As soon as the first lift of asphalt dries on the roadway and lines can be painted, the road will be tested for safety. At that point, it will open to two-way traffic. The City will publicize the road re-open date as soon as it's confirmed – on local radio, in local papers and on the City of Campbell River website: www.campbellriver.ca.

The City reminds residents and drivers that construction work will continue along 19A between Hilchey and Rockland Road through until the end of March 2011, even while the road is re-opened. A second and final lift or layer of asphalt will be laid in March, once final construction on the Simms Creek Lift Station and other elements of the project are complete.

For more information on the Highway 19A Upgrade project please visit the City of Campbell River website: www.campbellriver.ca.

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Contact:

Marci Hotsenpiller
Communications, Highway 19A & Airport Projects
c: 250 203 7867 f: 250 286 5762
e: marci.hotsenpiller@campbellriver.ca