

May 8, 2013

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**City seeks construction firms for downtown “makeover” with St Ann’s block upgrade project**

Work on the St Ann’s block upgrade project is moving forward with an invitation to tender now posted. Tender [No.743](#) was posted last week on the City website. It covers upgrades to underground services including sewer, water and storm drainage systems, as well as above-ground improvements to roads, sidewalks, streetlights and landscaping for the area connecting 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Shoppers Row. The tender closes May 23, 2013.

The work will result in a complete “makeover” of the St Ann’s block area. Many of the above-ground upgrades will help create inviting spaces for pedestrians, cyclists and visitors. For example, new trees and small, park-like spaces and garden areas will offer places where visitors and shoppers can mingle with workers during lunch breaks. New streetlights (similar to those in Willow Point) will improve lighting in the evening, and creative designs in paving stones will make streets and laneways more appealing. Options for sidewalk patio space could encourage existing cafés to expand or new ventures to set up shop.

The City anticipates strong interest for tender No. 743 from local and BC contractors, especially with so many general contractors working in the region.

*“Between this project and numerous other construction projects already underway around town, crews and contractors will remain busy this summer around Campbell River,” said Mayor Walter Jakeway. “These are real jobs. We encourage construction companies and personnel to spend their dollars locally when they are working on Campbell River job sites. It’s a win for our community and especially for local businesses to have this volume of new construction activity happening here.”*

The project area—which connects 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Shoppers Row and includes Alder, Beech St and Dubeau—will require significant excavation. The City intends to get construction moving in June to take advantage of the dry summer months. One of the contractor’s first tasks will be to prepare a traffic management plan to outline how cars and pedestrians will move safely through and around the site.

*“We recognize that keeping people moving downtown is of vital importance to businesses and visitors, so the project team has made traffic management an early priority on the project,” said Councillor Mary Storry, who oversees the public works and transportation portfolio for the City of Campbell River.*

Information about road detours will be provided to local news media and posted on the City website as soon as it’s available. Construction is estimated to start in June and proceed to the end of 2013. Coinciding with the upgrade project work is the construction of a new office building being planned by Seymour Pacific Developments at Alder and St Ann’s.

The St Ann’s project tender is posted on the City of Campbell River website under [Bid Opportunities](#). For full information, contact the Facilities and Supply Management Department at 250-286-5766. For more information about the St Ann’s upgrade project, visit the Downtown Revitalization project pages on the City’s website (click the Capital Projects hotlink button on the home page).

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