

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Approved grant funding for the resurfacing of Cowichan Valley Trail

DUNCAN, BC – Previously approved grant funding from the Province of British Columbia will enable the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) to complete upgrades to trail surface conditions along a prominent section of the Cowichan Valley Trail (CVT) next month.

The CVRD has received a \$300,000 grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure. Beginning Tuesday, February 1, resurfacing work will take place on the 7.5-kilometre section of the CVT between Waters Road and Hawthorne Road for approximately 12 weeks. During construction, dump trucks will be active up and down the regional trail between Hawthorne Road, and Waters Road.

“We certainly appreciate how well used the Cowichan Valley Trail system is for outdoor recreation across the region by our residents and visitors,” said Brian Farquhar, Manager of Parks & Trails for the Cowichan Valley Regional District. “The trail resurfacing addresses this section of the regional trail that was not improved at the time the former rail bed was converted over to trail use, so trail users will see significant improvement to their trail use experience once completed.”

Trail resurfacing construction activities will occur weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and for safety reasons the section of trail will remain closed to the public during this period. Every effort will be made to open the trail on weekends and statutory holidays, with posted active construction zones informing the public of potentially loose gravel and/or an uneven surface. However, if the active construction zone on the trail is deemed too unsafe to open to the public over weekend periods, the trail will remain closed.

The Cowichan Valley Trail (CVT) is a 120 km multi-use non-motorized recreational and active transportation trail connecting communities throughout the Cowichan Valley Regional District and providing an integral part of The Great Trail route on southern Vancouver Island between Victoria and Nanaimo.

The public is also reminded that due to major washouts experienced during the atmospheric river event last November, sections of the Cowichan Valley trail remain inaccessible/closed between Paldi and the Town of Lake Cowichan and between Agira Road and Sherman Road. The trail washouts are currently being assessed and remediation plans/cost estimates developed for funding consideration and timelines to effect repair and trail reopening.

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