

**REPORT TO SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION
MEETING OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

SUBJECT **Review of the Jackson Road Pedestrian and Bike Path Design**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To review the Jackson Road pedestrian and bike path design prior to progressing towards final approvals.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is advancing the Jackson Road Pathway Project to improve active transportation connections between Jackson Avenue, McPhillips Avenue, and the Ganges Village core. The project includes new sidewalk, cycling lane, and crosswalk improvements to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety and expand the island's active transportation network. Engineering consulting services have been initiated to prepare full engineered pathway and cycling designs consistent with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) requirements and BC Active Transportation Grant eligibility criteria. The planned design corridor includes:

- 240 metres of sidewalk,
- 200 metres of cycling lane, and
- Three new crosswalks along Jackson Avenue and McPhillips Avenue.

The designs must integrate with existing infrastructure, address environmental and geotechnical constraints, and include coordination with adjacent private landowners where statutory rights-of-way or land acquisitions may be required.

CRD will provide archaeological oversight and coordinate First Nations consultation. The engineering consultant will lead all technical design work, engage MOTI, and manage all required sub-consultants.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

This Active Transportation proposal is in alignment with the Salt Spring Island Active Transportation Network Plan (2023). The Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) identified the development of active transportation initiatives in and around Ganges Village as a priority in the 2024 LCC Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications

The Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant program is currently deferred and could be re-started in the future. The program required that the local government contribute a minimum of 30% of the project costs associated with developing the project. Other grant programs will also be pursued.

An initial class C estimate is in process and will be further developed following the completion of

the design. Reserve funding of \$130,000 has been included in the 2026 capital plan to support matching funds for potential grant opportunities.

First Nations Reconciliation

WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council and CRD have quarterly meetings to review projects that require land alteration for consideration of archaeology and cultural heritage. This project does not appear to overlap any areas of high potential or registered archaeological sites however given the proximity to surrounding areas of high potential the project may be brought forward to a future quarterly meeting for discussion.

Intergovernmental Implications

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) is the authority having jurisdiction over the road right of ways on Salt Spring Island. Any final design decisions are at the discretion of MOTI.

CONCLUSION

The Jackson Road Pathway Project advances key active transportation priorities for Salt Spring Island by improving safety and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists. Preliminary designs meet provincial standards and position the project for future grant opportunities. Ongoing coordination with MOTI, First Nations, and affected property owners will refine the final design and ensure regulatory requirements are met.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation, this report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Dan Ovington, BBA, Senior Manager, CRD Salt Spring Island Administration
Concurrence:	Stephen Henderson, MBA, B Sc, General Manager, Electoral Area Services

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Location Map and Draft Engineered Pathway Design