

Pitt Meadows Road and Rail Improvements

The Port of Vancouver is Canada's largest port. Each day, goods from across Canada arrive at the port by rail and road for export, and goods from around the world arrive to be imported to Canada. This trade is growing, which means more goods-movement traffic through the Lower Mainland to the port.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, as part of our mandate to facilitate Canada's trade objectives, is working with partners on projects that will ensure efficient road and rail networks in the region, and address the impacts of increasing trade, including on safety, congestion, environment, community access and general livability.



DRAFT rendering of underpass at Harris Road

Through a collaborative planning process that involved the port authority, TransLink, the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Greater Vancouver Gateway Council, and Transport Canada, two rail crossings in Pitt Meadows were identified as priorities to be upgraded. In 2018, the port authority received funding from Transport Canada's National Trade Corridors Fund to complete design and construction of the Pitt Meadows Road and Rail Improvements, including the coordination of a CP led rail project.

The improvements include:

- A new four-lane underpass crossing the CP main rail line at the location of the existing Harris Road crossing.
- A new two-lane overpass crossing the CP main rail line at the entrance to CP's Vancouver Intermodal Terminal. The crossing would replace the current rail crossing at Kennedy Road.
- A new rail siding track for parking trains (approximately 16,000 feet), including a new rail bridge over Katzie Slough, to support the Vancouver Intermodal Terminal (Led by CP).

The port authority is now focusing on working with Indigenous groups, municipalities and other stakeholders to undertake technical studies and engagement, advance project design and plan for project construction.

Project Benefits

The port authority has a positive track record of delivering high-quality projects based on best practice in environmental sustainability, environmental protection, and engagement. Anticipated benefits of this project include:

- **Improved public safety:** Reduces risk of collisions between trains and people walking, cycling, and driving.
- **Better emergency response:** Allows first responders to get to incidents faster and more easily.
- **More reliable commutes:** Improves reliability of roads because they won't be blocked by rail traffic.
- **Reduced congestion:** Improves mobility for local residents and more efficient goods movement.
- **Reduced GHG emissions:** Elimination of wait times for vehicles at train crossings means reduced emissions and reduced energy requirements.
- **Increased job opportunities:** Growth in trade means growth in local jobs.
- **Accommodating trade growth:** Increasing capacity to move Canadian products to foreign markets, and foreign products to Canadian consumers, safely and more efficiently.

The port authority will also work with the local community and First Nations to identify opportunities for:

- **Public space improvements:** Create public space improvements such as inclusion of Indigenous cultural recognition, public art, seating, and integration of native species in landscaping plans.
- **Improved connections for walking and cycling:** Enhance walking and cycling facilities associated with the crossings.

Project Partner Roles

Successfully delivering this project will require strong collaboration with the City of Pitt Meadows, local Indigenous groups, and Canadian Pacific Railway, and we will be working closely with them to ensure the project addresses their particular needs.

This project has two delivery partners:

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

The port authority is providing overall project management and working to ensure best practice in engagement and environmental protection.

Canadian Pacific Railway

CP owns and operates the Vancouver Intermodal Terminal at Kennedy Road. As the land owner, they will undertake redevelopment of their yard and construction of the new rail track and new rail bridge. CP is a public company that operates under all applicable Canadian and U.S. regulatory guidelines and standards.

Timeline

2017 – Project submitted for funding with the National Trade Corridors Fund

2018 – First phase of public engagement completed in Pitt Meadows

2018 – Government of Canada announces intent to fund design and construction of the projects through the National Trade Corridors Fund

2019 – Project begins design work and additional public consultation

2021 – Construction anticipated to begin

2024 – Anticipated project completion

Timelines are subject to change.

About the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is responsible for the stewardship of the federal port lands in and around Vancouver, British Columbia. It is financially self-sufficient and accountable to the federal minister of transport and operates pursuant to the *Canada Marine Act*. The port authority's mandate is to facilitate Canada's trade objectives, ensuring goods are moved safely while protecting the environment and considering local communities.

For more information

Sign up online to receive email notification of project updates and public engagement opportunities.

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