

Operational update

January 5, 2026

BC Hydro advises community of upcoming traffic impacts on Douglas Street

VICTORIA: Starting January 12, BC Hydro crews will be working along Douglas Street, from Topaz Avenue to Burnside Road. This work, part of critical infrastructure upgrades, will require lane closures and is expected to take approximately five weeks to complete.

To keep drivers informed, electronic message boards and street signage have been installed at key locations. Efforts will be made to have an additional lane open during peak travel times. Drivers should plan ahead, drive with caution and expect delays.

While work is underway, there will be no left turns onto Burnside Road for northbound Douglas Street traffic. For the first week or two, there will be no access to Topaz Avenue from Douglas Street. Access to Topaz Avenue will be maintained from Quesnel, Nanaimo and Blanshard street. The work cannot be carried out at night for crew safety and the extent of open excavation.

This work supports the Victoria to Esquimalt Cable Replacement Project, which will replace a corroded underground transmission cable installed in 1980. The new 230-kilovolt oil-free insulated cable will span 2.3 kilometres beneath city streets in Victoria and Esquimalt, with a portion crossing under the Gorge Waterway, improving reliability, addressing seismic risks and meeting growing energy needs.

BC Hydro continues to work closely with the City of Victoria and BC Transit, including sharing schedule updates and coordinating traffic management. Our goal is to ensure the project is completed safely and responsibly and we thank the community for their patience and understanding as we undertake this critical work to keep the Greater Victoria power supply safe and reliable.

For more information and project updates, visit bchydro.com/victoriatoesquimalt.

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