

# Victoria to Esquimalt Cable Replacement Project – Community Construction Report #10

**February 2026**

Prepared by Stephen Watson

Email: [steve.watson@bchydro.com](mailto:steve.watson@bchydro.com)

Phone: 1-250-616-9888

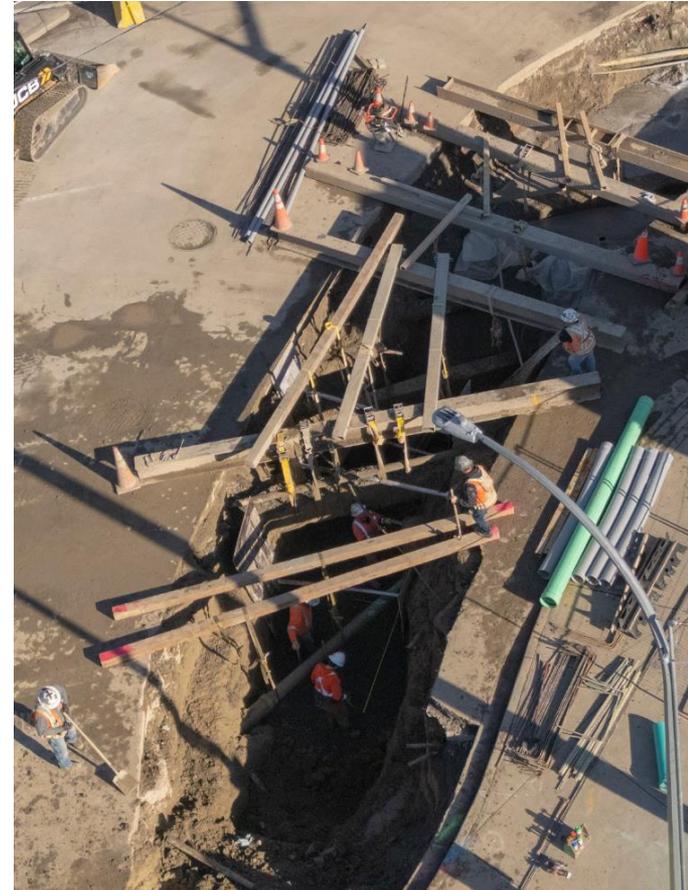
Project website: [www.bchydro.com/victoriatoesquimalt](http://www.bchydro.com/victoriatoesquimalt)



# Project status

- Crews have been working in Banfield Park, Viaduct Park, Douglas Street, Esquimalt Substation by the E&N Trail, and may begin work on a short section of Gorge Road on March 23.
- Banfield Park: Crews are nearing completion of the duct bank installation from the concrete vault to an area close to the foreshore. The work should be complete in mid-March.
- Viaduct Park: The eight sections of the concrete vault are in place and the area is filled in. The metal sheet piles used for shoring are in the process of being removed. Work has begun to build the duct bank up to Gorge Road. A small area between the vault area and the Galloping Goose Trail will also be completed this spring.
- Douglas Street: Crews have completed the Douglas Street duct bank work.
- Dunedin Street: Work commenced the third week of February on the duct bank along the 600-block and may take about six weeks to complete.
- Esquimalt Substation and proximity to E&N Trail and Hereward Green Park: Ongoing work on the removal of the slope within the newly fenced area and the new cable duct bank placement.
- Gorge Road East: Work may commence around March 23 and will close the westbound lane for up to two weeks. The eastbound lane will then close for up to two weeks to tie in the Viaduct Park duct bank into the Gorge Road duct bank installed last summer. Please see traffic management plan at the end of this report.

February 11: Duct bank work on Douglas Street and the bracing and protection of numerous utilities.



# Planning the cable route – construction timing

Esquimalt Substation (left) and Horsey Substation work February 2025 to November 2026.

Pine/ Hereward/ Dominion/ Devonshire intersection: April-May 2026.

Pine St and a section of Banfield Park completed June 2025

Banfield Park: work to November 2026

Gorge Waterway shallow burial and adjacent parks: Summer 2026 fisheries work window – July 1 to October 1

Gorge Road and Viaduct Park: work in November 2025 to November 2026

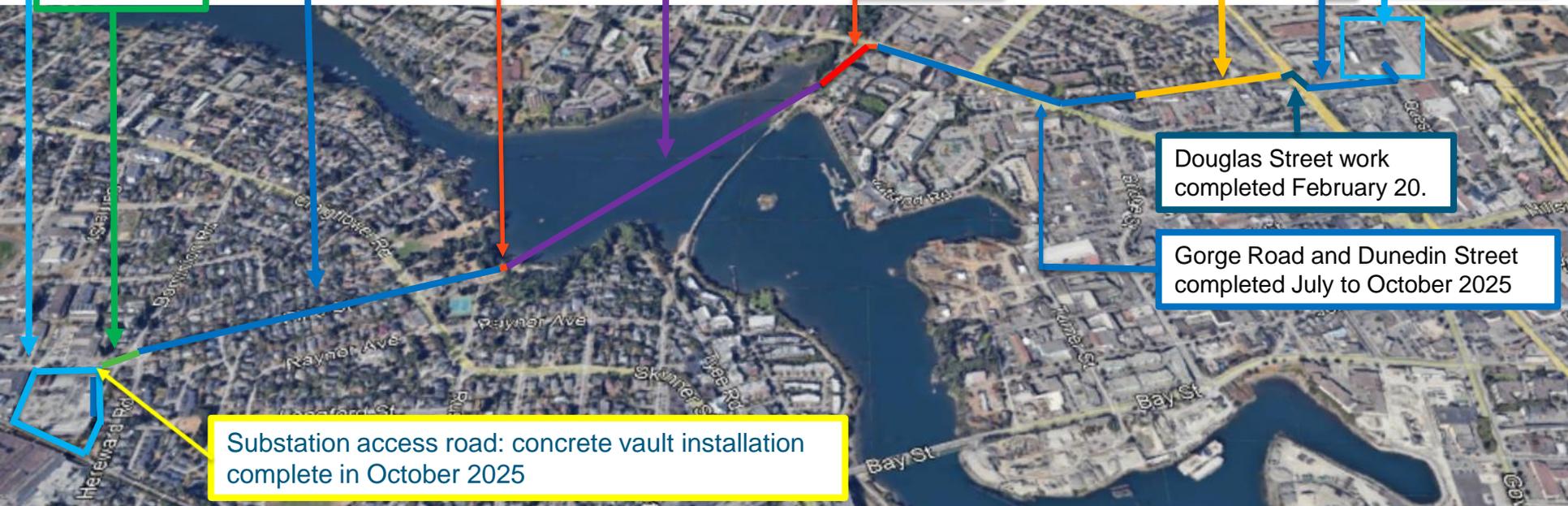
Dunedin Street: Crews will work westward mid-February through March 2026

Topaz Avenue: completed December 2025

Douglas Street work completed February 20.

Gorge Road and Dunedin Street completed July to October 2025

Substation access road: concrete vault installation complete in October 2025



# Construction photos: Esquimalt Substation

February 11: Earthworks construction work to expand the substation footprint and enable the placement of the cable duct bank. E&N Trail on the right.



# Construction photos: Banfield Park

February 11: View of the construction work area. To prepare for marine work this summer, vegetation was removed within the foreshore area prior to the bird nesting season.



# Construction photos: Banfield Park

February 11: Work area for a section of duct bank from the concrete vault to near the foreshore area. The lower trail by the foreshore remains open for pedestrians and bikes. Scansa Construction Ltd is our contractor for this short section of the duct bank work.



# Construction photos: Banfield Park

February 19: Vantage from above the concrete vault showing the fully excavated area and shoring.



# Construction photos: Banfield Park

February 19: The excavated area looking back towards the concrete vault. The concrete foundation for the concrete anchor base is under the orange tarp.



# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 5: Completed excavation for the concrete vault and the placement of the gravel base. Green dashed lines are being placed to outline the placement of the 20-metre-long vault. In the background, removal of vegetation adjacent to the Gorge Waterway.



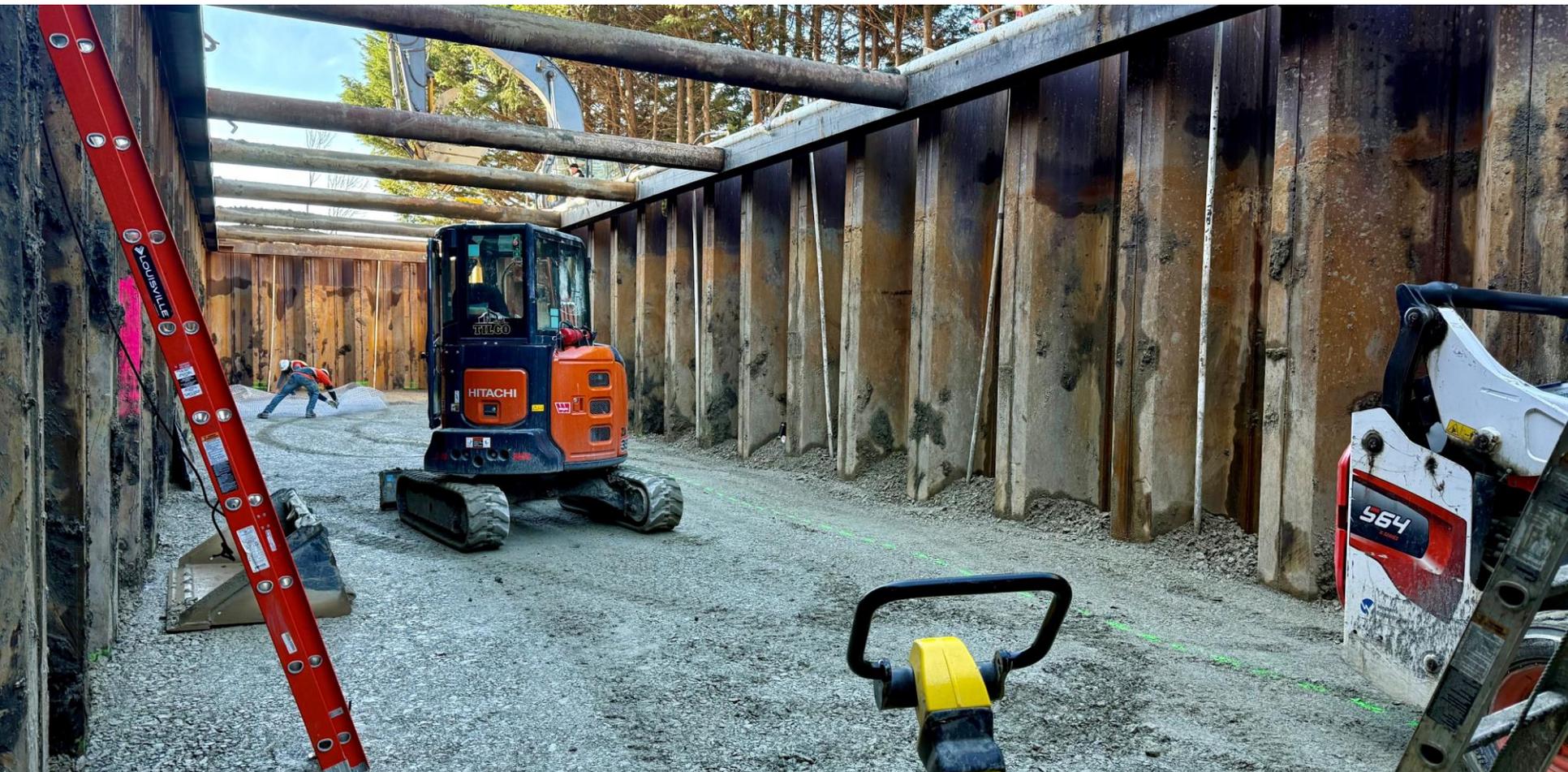
# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 5: Within the excavated area for the vault looking westward, crews placing geo-tech mesh every 30 cm to maintain a good gravel base. The excavator above lowers the gravel into place.



# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 5: Inside the bottom of the excavated area looking westward.



# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 5: View of the sheet pile work area for the vault.



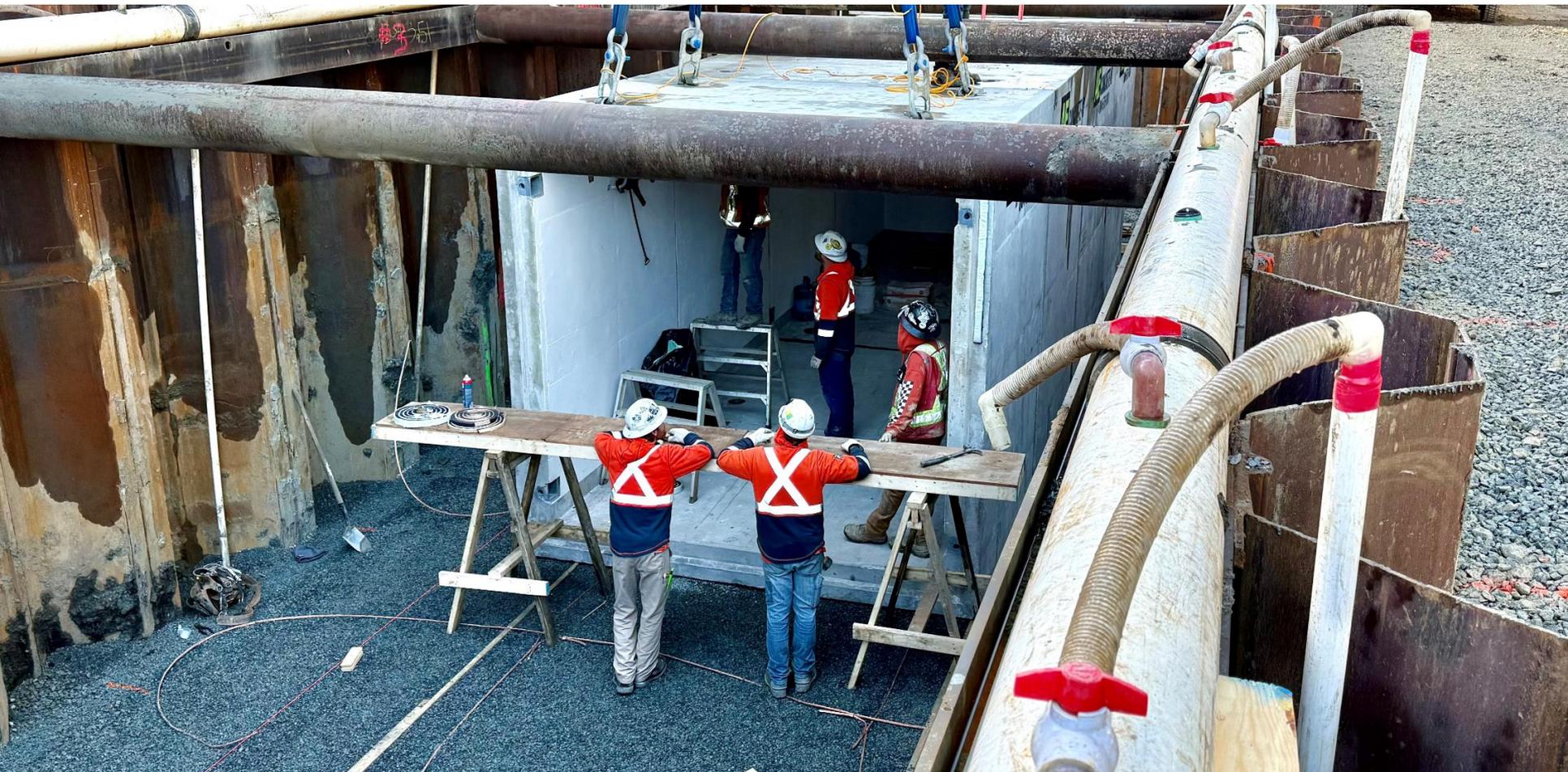
# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 11: Placing the fourth of eight sections of the concrete vault. The vault was installed over a three-day period.



# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 11: Making the final alignment adjustments on the positioning of the vault section.

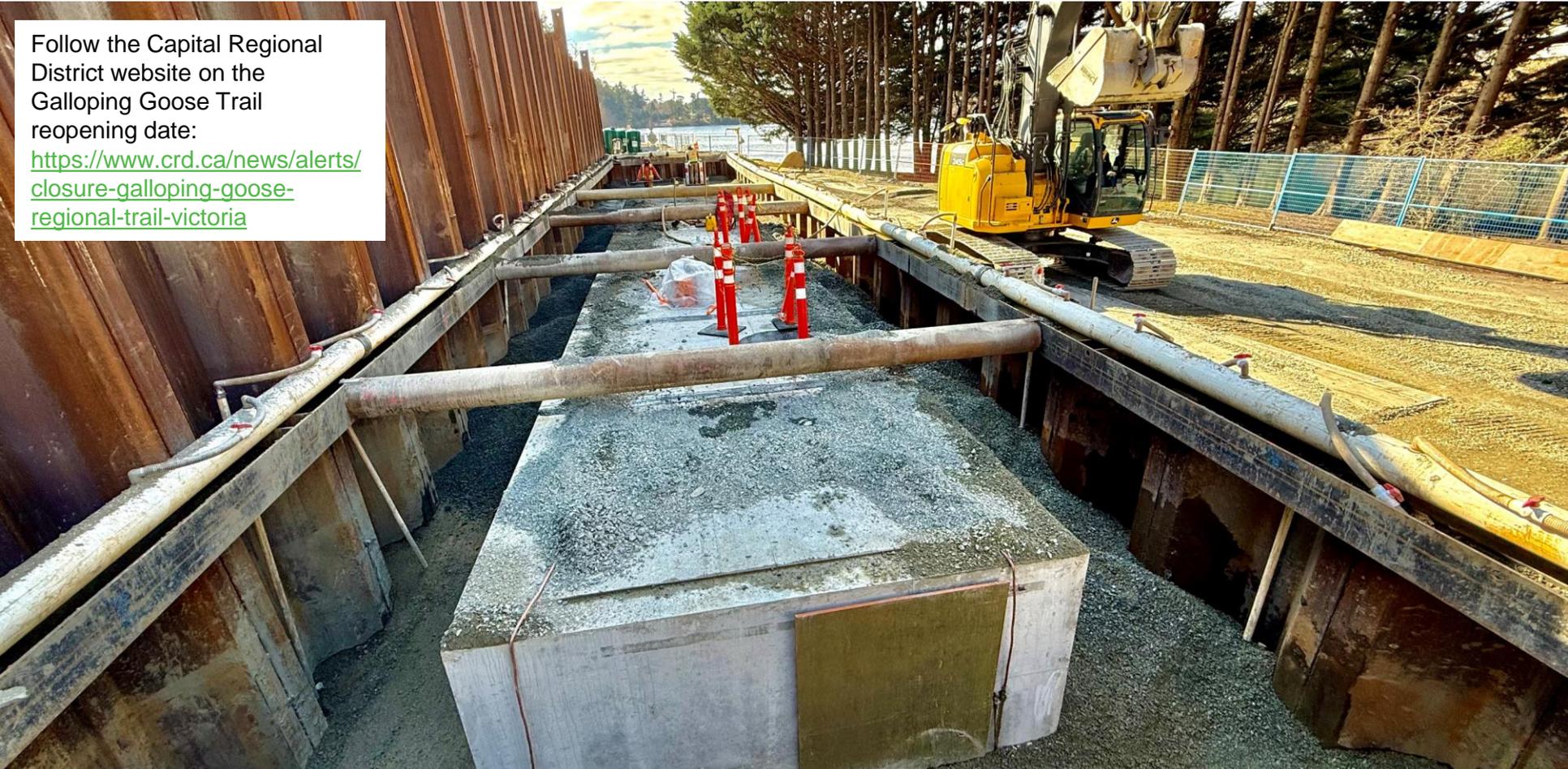


# Construction photos: Viaduct Park

February 19: Filling in the area around the vault. The sheet piles around the area are being removed February 24 through March 6.

Follow the Capital Regional District website on the Galloping Goose Trail reopening date:

<https://www.crd.ca/news/alerts/closure-galloping-goose-regional-trail-victoria>



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 5: Comprehensive view of the work area and the duct bank work going across Douglas Street from Topaz Avenue.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 5: Duct bank work showing two Hvac Trucks removing soils and clay between numerous underground utilities on the right, and on the left, the placement of the concrete road base in advance of asphalt placement.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 5: Douglas Street work area.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 11: Bird's-eye view of the complexity of the duct bank work going under the many utilities and turning towards Burnside Road. The work in this area included three concrete placements: one for the duct bank conduit; one for a special concrete mix (shown on the right of the photo) to keep the cables cool given the lower ground depth; and one for the road base.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 11: Crews placing the duct bank works under the numerous braced utilities. The soil in this area, up to 3 metres deep, was removed by Hvac Trucks as the utilities were too close together to safely place an excavator bucket.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 11: Panoramic view of the duct bank work and the traffic management, with downtown Victoria in the background.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 19: Concrete base placement in the background, and in the foreground, excavation work as the duct bank moves off Douglas Street onto the end of Burnside Road and down Dunedin Street.



# Construction photos: Douglas Street

February 19: Crews placing the concrete base before asphalt was placed as the final street surface the next day. Douglas Street fully reopened in the morning of February 20. The northbound lane of Burnside Road (right side of photo) also opened on that same day. It was one week later than expected, though a significant achievement given the underground challenges. The southbound lane of Burnside Road opened February 27. Thank you to all the businesses and commuters for their patience.



# Traffic management plan – Dunedin Street

## Sumas Street and Dunedin Street intersection

### Work timeline:

- Duct bank work began the third week of February and is moving westward, stopping on the western edge of the Sumas Street intersection.
- The work in the 600-block will be done in different construction sections.
- Repaving of the work area.
- Estimated completion of all construction and restoration work is end of March.

### Traffic management during Sumas Street intersection work:

- Intersection closed for one to two weeks starting as early as mid-March. See traffic management plan.
- Please use alternative routes.
- No parking on either side of the street within the designated work zone.
- Follow flaggers and detour signs.



