

Highway 17 Keating Cross Road Flyover Interchange

This project is located within the territories of the Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tseycum and Tsawout First Nations.

**Public Engagement: February 24 to March 24,
2021**



Welcome to the Storymap

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is working with Indigenous, local, regional, and federal governments to ensure this project incorporates their specific interests and challenges and ensures a safe and reliable transportation network for these communities.

Input from community members and impacted stakeholders is also an important component of this project.

Project Overview

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is designing a new flyover overpass from the Patricia Bay Highway (Highway 17) northbound to Keating Cross Road westbound.

The overpass will eliminate the left turn across Highway 17 traffic onto Keating Cross Road and at East Saanich Road. The project will also include a realigned southbound on-ramp from Keating Cross Road to Victoria. New bus-on-shoulder facilities will also support long term plans for bus rapid transit on Highway 17. Keating Cross Road (between highway ramps to Central Saanich Road) will be widened and will include sidewalks. The design will also include access changes to minor streets along Keating Cross Road at the intersections of Barbara Place, Buena Vista Drive, and Tamany Drive.

Once completed, the Highway 17 Keating Cross Road flyover overpass will allow vehicles to travel this busy corridor more safely and efficiently, as well as help to keep local businesses competitive and promote regional economic growth.



What is a Flyover?

A flyover, otherwise known as an overpass, is a structure that carries one road over the top of another road. It is different from a bridge, which connects two points separated by a naturally occurring region like a valley, river or ocean.

The flyover to the right shows the newly constructed flyover overpass near the University of British Columbia Okanagan in Kelowna.



The Problem

Projected population growth within Central Saanich and the Capital Regional District will add vehicles to an already busy Highway 17, especially at peak times.



The Problem

Planned industrial and commercial development along Keating Cross Road in the business district will also increase demand for travel between Central Saanich and the rest of the communities within the Capital Regional District.



The Problem

Without improvements, delays on the highway in the northbound direction are expected to only worsen, increasing overall travel times on Highway 17.



The Problem

The turning movements both at Keating Cross Road and East Saanich Road at Highway 17 will experience significant delays and queues as the gaps for vehicles turning left are significantly reduced due to the increase in southbound highway traffic.

In addition, the overall operational performance at Central Saanich Road and Keating Cross Road intersection will reduce over the next 25 years with the planned growth in Central Saanich.



The Problem

Traffic making left turns from Highway 17 to Keating Cross Road also experiences more frequent and more severe collisions than provincial averages. These patterns are expected to worsen with growing traffic along Highway 17 and increased local traffic.

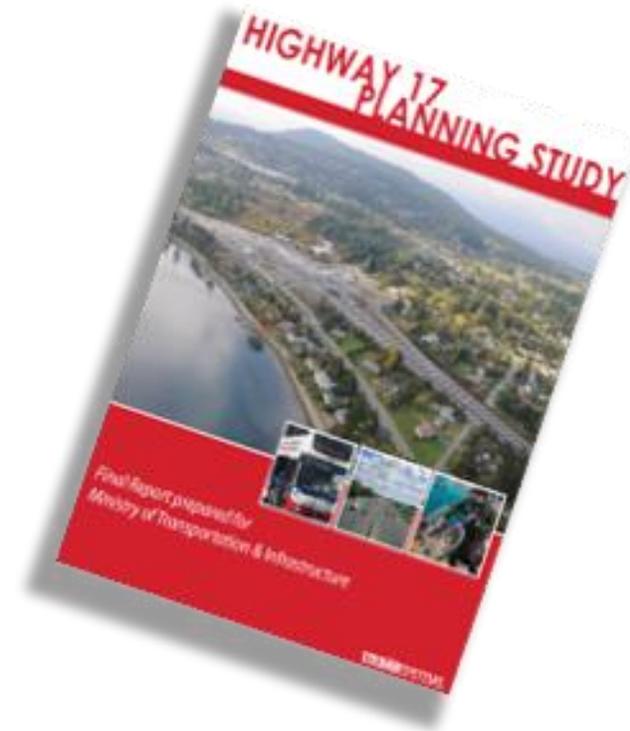


Why this project? Why now?

Keating Cross Road was identified as a priority in transportation planning studies.

In 2014, a **Highway 17 Corridor Plan** was created to establish priorities for improvements along the highway.

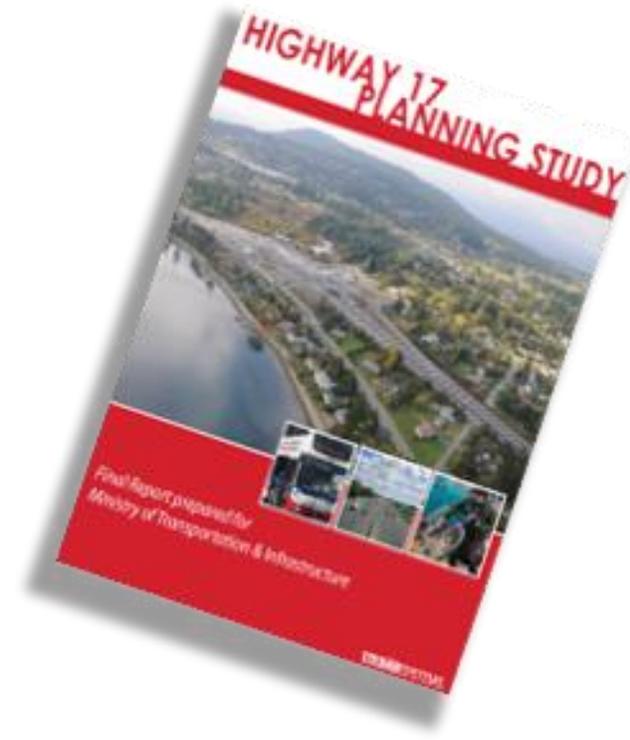
Level of Service (LOS) is a qualitative measure used to relate the relative quality of motor vehicle traffic service. There are six ratings from LOS A (the highest level of service where the traffic is free-flowing) to LOS F (a failing grade where traffic flow is reduced to start/stop at minimal speeds). The corridor plan identified that, without improvements, delays on the highway in the northbound direction are expected to approach failing conditions for both AM and PM times, (LOS E) increasing overall travel times on Highway 17.



Why this project? Why now?

Turning movements at Keating Cross Road and East Saanich Road at Highway 17 will experience significant delays and queues as the gaps for vehicles turning left are significantly reduced due to increased southbound highway traffic. The overall operational performance at Central Saanich Road and Keating Cross Road intersection will also reduce from a LOS A/B today to a LOS F over the next 25 years with the planned growth in Central Saanich.

The Keating Flyover is given priority over other interchanges due to the potential for high-speed head-on crashes at the uncontrolled left turns at Keating Cross Road as well as at the similar East Saanich Road left turn exit just to the north. Safety at these locations will be addressed with the Keating flyover.



Why this project? Why now?

The South Island Transportation Plan, released by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in September 2020, also lays the groundwork for future improvements to the ways people get around on southern Vancouver Island. The strategy identifies additional improvement options for transit, cycling, pedestrian movements, ferry services, rail and existing roads and the connections between them.

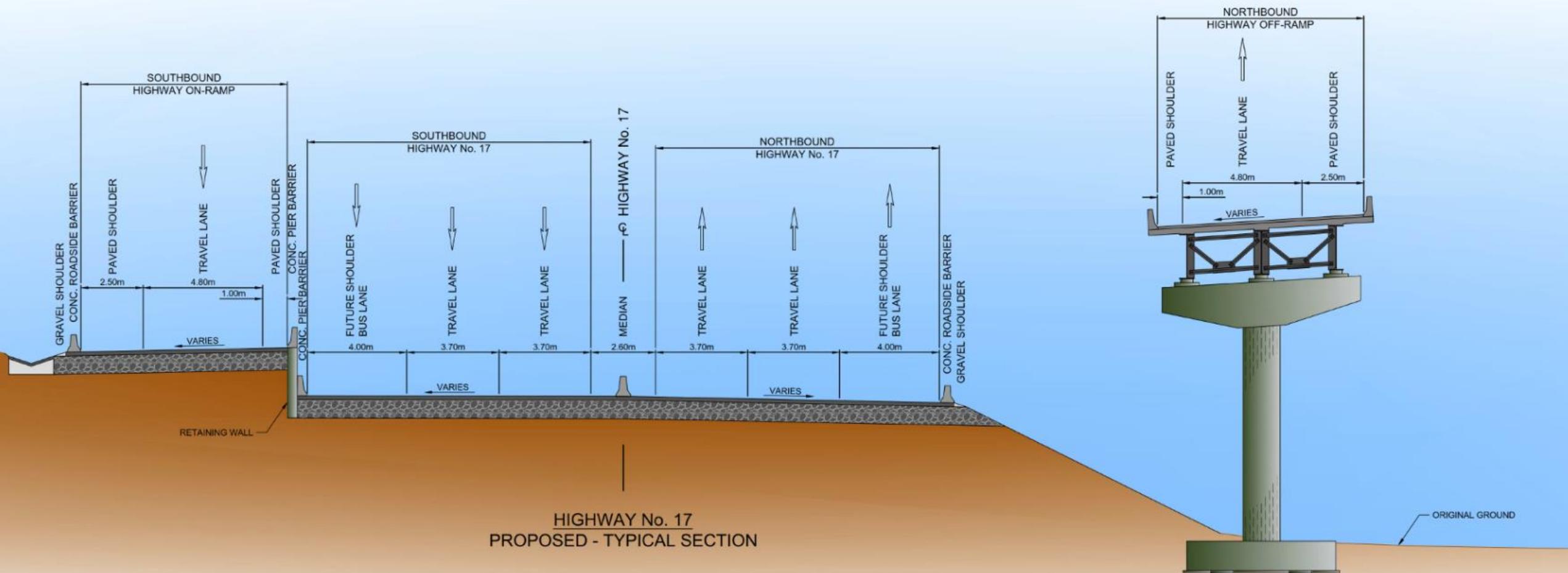


Project Scope

Sections of the design for this work are shown below. The new “flyover” overpass from northbound Highway 17 to Keating Cross Road westbound, will eliminate the left turns across highway traffic onto Keating and East Saanich and provide a realigned southbound on ramp to Victoria from Keating. There will be **bus-on-shoulder** facilities to support future plans for bus rapid transit on Highway 17 in both directions.

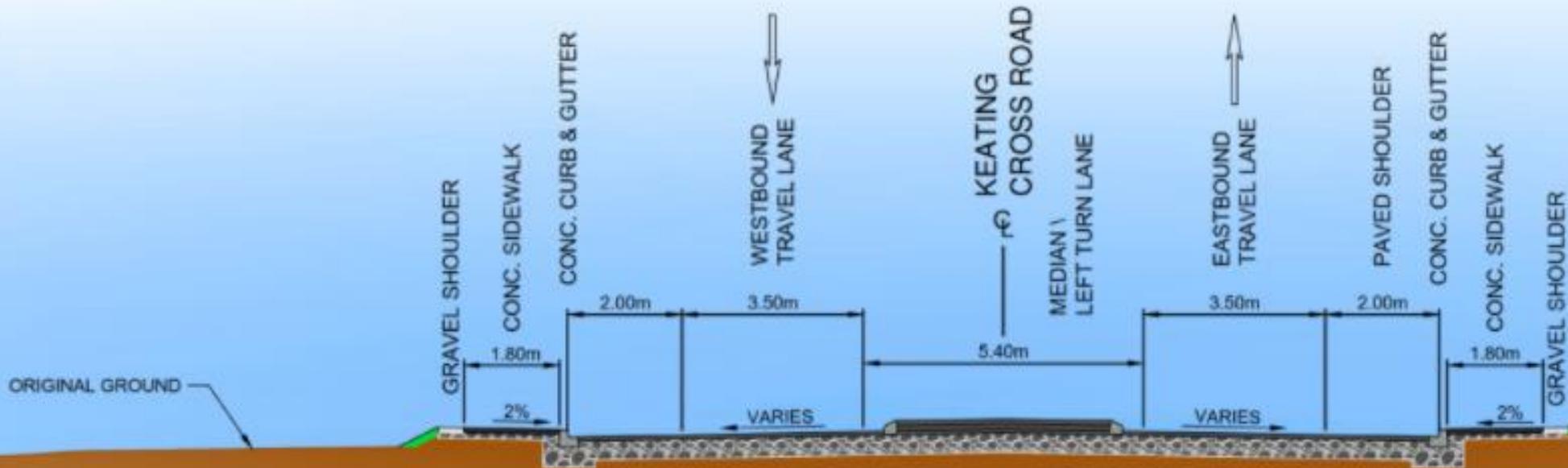


Project Cross Section



Project Cross Section

Keating Cross Road will be widened to support traffic using the new flyover and sidewalks will be installed to help support pedestrians.



KEATING CROSS ROAD
DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH
PROPOSED - TYPICAL SECTION

Project Scope

The Ministry is considering two options for the median along Keating Cross Road.

- Option 1 will prevent left turns onto Tamany Drive and Buena Vista Road.
- Option 2 will allow for left turns onto Tamany Drive and Bujena Vista Road. Swipe the image below to view both options being considered for the median along Keating Cross Road as well as the proposed sidewalks and retaining wall.

OPTION 1



CENTRAL SAANICH ROAD

BARBARA DRIVE

BARBARA PLACE

BARBARA DRIVE

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

PROPOSED MEDIAN

PROPOSED RETAINING WALL

CLOSE

CLOSE

CLOSE

KEATING CROSS ROAD

KEATING CROSS ROAD

CLOSE

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

BUENA VISTA ROAD

TAMANY DRIVE

OPTION 2



BARBARA DRIVE

BARBARA PLACE

CENTRAL SAANICH ROAD

PROPOSED MEDIAN

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

PROPOSED MEDIAN

PROPOSED RETAINING WALL

CLOSE

CLOSE

CLOSE

KEATING CROSS ROAD

KEATING CROSS ROAD

CLOSE

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

BUENA VISTA ROAD

TAMANY DRIVE

Future Pedestrian and Cycling Connections

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is working with the District of Central Saanich and the Capital Regional District to explore a connection between Lochside Trail and Central Saanich. This would provide for a future dedicated pedestrian and cyclist connection between the residential areas in Central Saanich to the Lochside Trail.

To find out more about the District of Central Saanich's Active Transportation Planning process follow this link to [Letstalkcentralsaanich.ca/activetransportation](https://letstalkcentralsaanich.ca/activetransportation)

Key Benefits



Accomodate
growing traffic
demands



Reduce idling times
and related air
emissions



Improve safety



Improve traffic flow
and travel times
along Highway 17



Support future plans
for rapid transit



Relieve existing
vehicle congestion

Timeline

Early design and consultation is now underway with construction targeted to start in 2021 and be completed in 2023.

People in the area of Keating Cross Road and Highway 17 have already begun seeing workers on site conducting initial engineering.



Project Funding

This project is funded with contributions from the Government of Canada (federal), Province of British Columbia, and District of Central Saanich. The initial project estimate is \$44.3 million.

