

HIGHWAY 1 COLQUITZ BRIDGES PROJECT INFORMATION & UPDATES

June 5, 2026



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Highway 1-Colquitz River Bridges Widening project will widen and seismically retrofit both existing two-lane bridges over Burnside Road on Highway 1 in Victoria, as well as establish a dedicated bus-on-shoulder lane. Widening the Colquitz River bridges will make for a more reliable, efficient commute for south Islanders while protecting local waterways and ecosystems. The Project will provide environmental enhancements by planting native trees, removing invasive species and treating highway runoff via a rain garden before discharging into the Colquitz River. Pomerleau Inc was awarded the construction contract in March 2024 for the project.

PROJECT UPDATE AND LOOKAHEAD

May works focused on final North and South bridge construction activities, including street lights, signage, and civil grading. Civil works continued along the highway, including placement of gravels and concrete roadside barriers. Hydroseeding and tree planting were completed along the median. Final drainage installation was completed from the bridge decks into the rain garden along Burnside Road West. The multi-use path has been reopened under the bridges. An updated drone photo of the Colquitz Bridges project is shown above. Final construction items include final touch ups on the bridges and equipment demobilization.

PENINSULA STREAMS SOCIETY - HABITAT RESTORATION

This summer, Peninsula Streams & Shorelines, in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit and the District of Saanich, will be restoring habitat along the Colquitz River beneath the Highway 1 bridge crossing. The project will enhance stream and riparian habitat for coastal cutthroat trout, coho salmon, and other wildlife through invasive species removal, native planting, and instream habitat improvements.

Interested in helping? Volunteer opportunities will be available throughout the project. Learn more and sign up at www.peninsulastreams.ca/volunteer.

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental protection measures remained in place throughout the course of construction and regular third-party environmental audits were completed multiple times a month. These audits included in-stream water quality monitoring upstream, downstream, and adjacent to the Project area. Monitoring results confirmed the Project met turbidity requirements, and construction activities did not affect river water quality.

Tree planting and hydroseeding began in May along the median of Highway 1, and were completed in early June. These works are intended to restore the vegetation and previous trees along the median. The project targeted a tree replacement ratio of 3:1 to match the District of Saanich Tree Protection Bylaw requirements. Tree bags were installed on the trees planted in the median and they will be watered through the dry summer period.

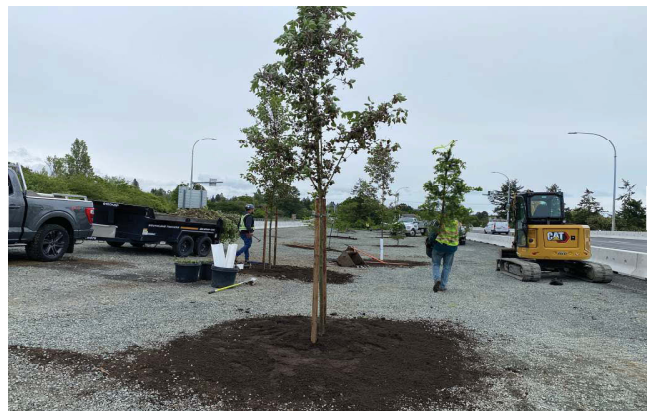


Figure 1: New Trees Along Highway 1 Median

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Figure 2: New trees planted in the median



Figure 3: Drone image of project site (looking East)



Figure 4: Drone image of project site (looking North-East)



Figure 5: Hydroseeding and new trees planted along the median