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## FACTSHEET

September 20, 2024

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

### **Best practices for soil management in place on Highway 1 improvement project**

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure prioritizes environmental management in every one of its projects.

Soil is being removed from the median of Highway 1 between 216<sup>th</sup> Street and Highway 11 in preparation for highway improvements. The highway runs over the Hopington aquifer and other aquifers in the region.

All waste-quality soil is being transported off-site and disposed of at a permanent facility, and only soil characterized as meeting the standard for drinking water use is being used on highway embankments and within designated disposal areas like the right-of-way near Brown Pit.

With soil removal completed in the 232<sup>nd</sup> Street area, no additional soil will be relocated to this specific site beside Brown Pit. The site is gated to deter possible illegal dumping.

The soil relocation work follows a soil management plan developed by a professional engineering firm specializing in environmental management. To address the concerns of area residents, the ministry has retained the expertise of a second professional engineering firm to peer review the soil characterization work and review samples of the relocated soil.

Water quality at the aquifer was tested prior to soil relocation, and water testing will be ongoing.

To be clear, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is following federal and provincial guidelines and best practices for environmental management on its Fraser Valley Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Project.

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