

In Your Neighbourhood

Neighbourhood Block Party

On March 14, the City hosted a “Neighbourhood Block Party” at the Da Vince Centre in Vic West. After a keynote address on the importance of getting to know our neighbours, participants sat down together to identify places they love, community gathering space and active streets in their neighbourhoods. The resulting map will be made available for further exploration of ideas for projects in the neighbourhood.

Great Neighbourhood Grants

The program is open only until April 15, 2018. Please review the [guidelines and application form](#) online and contact City staff to finalize your application. In Fernwood, there are currently applications in the works for emergency preparedness from a group of Grant Street residents and a mural or garden project at the community centre.

Garden Micro Grants Awarded

On March 22, Council approved awarding of [Micro Grants](#) (\$500) to [all applicants](#). Micro grants are intended for eligible community groups delivering a service or program for volunteer coordination of commons and community gardens.

New Fire Station Downtown

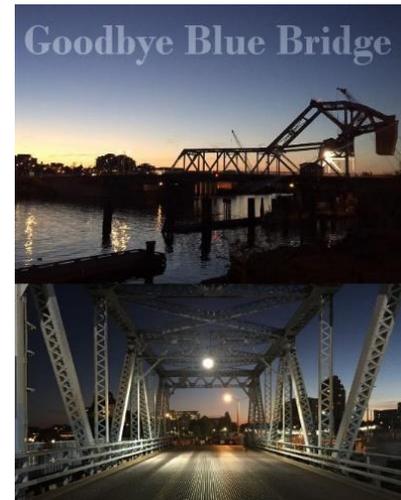
On March 22, Council also approved allocating \$35.9 million from the City's Debt Reduction Reserve, for inclusion in the 2018 - 2022 Financial Plan, for the procurement of [a new Fire Department](#) Headquarters to be located at a new parcel fronting Johnson Street, near Cook Street.

Hello New, Goodbye Blue

The new Johnson Street Bridge opened to traffic Saturday, March 31, following an official opening and community celebration event. The public can expect periodic lane closures on the new bridge until the old bridge is removed and the project is fully completed later this summer. View a video recap of the bridge replacement [here](#).

Arts Hub in Downtown?

On April 5, Council received a [report](#) summarizing an exploration of a new potential use for the former Provincial Courthouse at 28 Bastion Square. In fall of 2017, the Arts Consultant Group (ACG) was retained by the Downtown Victoria Business Association (DVBA) to examine the viability of the building as a downtown arts hub. Based on research and data gathered during the Create Victoria engagement process and additional engagement undertaken by the ACG Group, they recommend moving ahead with a project plan for 28 Bastion Square to become a self-funded, shared arts space for the arts, culture and creative sector.





Parkade Rates Increase

In order to provide incentives to improve parking accessibility, Council has approved an increase to rates for parkades to take effect June 1, 2018. Daily maximums will go to \$16 at all parkades except for the Bastion Square parkade, which will go to \$17.50. The staff report can be viewed [here](#).

Capital Projects in Fernwood

City staff will be presenting information on the 2019 capital budget and requesting local knowledge on transportation projects at the Fernwood Community Association April meeting. The following projects are currently scheduled for 2018.

Courts Resurfacing - Stadacona North Sport
Butterflyway Garden Features (Neighbourhood Grant)
Fernwood Road Catenary Lights (Neighbourhood Grant)
Traffic Signal Upgrade: Fernwood at Pandora
Paving (inc. underground): Grant - Fernwood to Stanley
Bus Shelter: Bay at Scott
Bus Shelter: Bay at Howard
Storm Drain Installation: Denman - Belmont to Oregon
Storm Drain Replacement: Howard - Denman to Bay
Local Area Plan

Have Your Say: Victoria’s Draft Climate Leadership Plan

The Climate Leadership Plan is Victoria’s road map for the transition to a prosperous, affordable, sustainable and low-carbon future. It includes short and long-term strategies and actions to help the community get to an 80% reduction in Green House Gas emissions by 2050, while transitioning to 100% renewable energy. The City will be hosting a number of community workshops in the coming weeks to allow you to share your ideas and feedback on the plan.

Community Workshop, Wednesday, April 25, 5 – 7:30 p.m. Victoria Conference Centre, 720 Douglas Street. A light dinner will be provided. Register [here](#) by Wednesday, April 18

Business Workshop, Wednesday, May 2, 7:30- 9:00 a.m. Victoria Conference Centre, 720 Douglas Street. Learn about what the Climate Leadership Plan means for your business and how you can be involved. A light breakfast will be provided. Register [here](#) by Sunday, April 28

Low-Waste Living, Wednesday, April 18, 5:30 – 7 p.m. Antechamber, City Hall. Register [here](#)

To learn more and to share your feedback online visit Victoria.ca/climateaction

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets April 5, 19 and 26 at 9am. Council meets April 12 and 26 beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can attend meetings or watch them online. The April 12 Committee of the Whole meeting is being rescheduled so that Council can attend the funeral of Chief Andy Thomas.