

The Discovery Road Project
...construction is starting



This newsletter is from the City of Port Townsend’s Engineering Department and provides information about the Discovery Road Bikeway, Roadway, and Sidewalk Project. You are receiving this newsletter because you signed up to receive emails about this project on the City’s website.

Schedule Update:

Seton Construction has submitted an initial construction schedule to the City with the following dates:

Date	Task
Early November 2023	Clearing
11/15/2023	Start of eastbound lane closure (south side of street)
12/18/2023	Work in front of school (ramps, sidewalk, raised crossing)
Mid-January to Mid-May	Sidewalk construction
Early February 2024	Permanent closure of 14th Street intersection
Mid-March 2024	Bikeway paving
3/21/2023	Start of westbound lane closure (north side of street)
Mid-May 2024	Street paving
Mid-May 2024	Striping and sign installation
Late May 2024	Construction complete

Please keep in mind that these dates are approximate, and will be dependent on many factors, including the winter weather.

Construction Hours Reminder:

Under Section 9.09.040.B.1.a of the Port Townsend Municipal Code, construction noise is permitted weekdays **7:00 am to 6:00 pm**. On very rare occasions, if construction work needs to happen outside these hours, the contractor will apply for a noise variance with the Planning and Community Development Director.

Fences:

The project boundary has been staked by a licensed surveyor, and these stakes show the public right of way line along Discovery Road. If an adjacent property owner's fence is within the public right of way, it will need to be moved either by the owner or by the project contractor. After the project is over, fences can only be built back on private property. If a property owner would like to put up a new fence after the project, they can contact the City's Planning and Community Development Department to get the most current fencing requirements, as these requirements vary by zoning. Permit techs, Robin Hill (at rhill@cityofpt.us) or Amber Warren (at awarren@cityofpt.us), can be contacted to find out what is needed for a particular fence. Depending on what is built back and how high, a building permit may be needed. Visit our website to learn more about fence construction in Port Townsend, or you may request this brochure at City Hall: https://cityofpt.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_and_community_development/page/8190/information-fence_handout_faq.pdf

Undergrounding Overhead Utilities:

Astound, Lumen, and the PUD have undergrounded their utilities in advance of the project. Astound will remove the poles as this newsletter goes to print. Undergrounding utilities ensures the new sidewalks will be clear of obstructions, and thus accessible to all, including wheelchair or stroller users.

Bus Service:

Jefferson Transit Authority (JTA) will install new bus shelters along the project corridor once heavy construction is complete. The new bus shelters will look like the photo to the right.

JTA will modify bus service along Discovery Road during construction. The latest information about bus services can be viewed at:

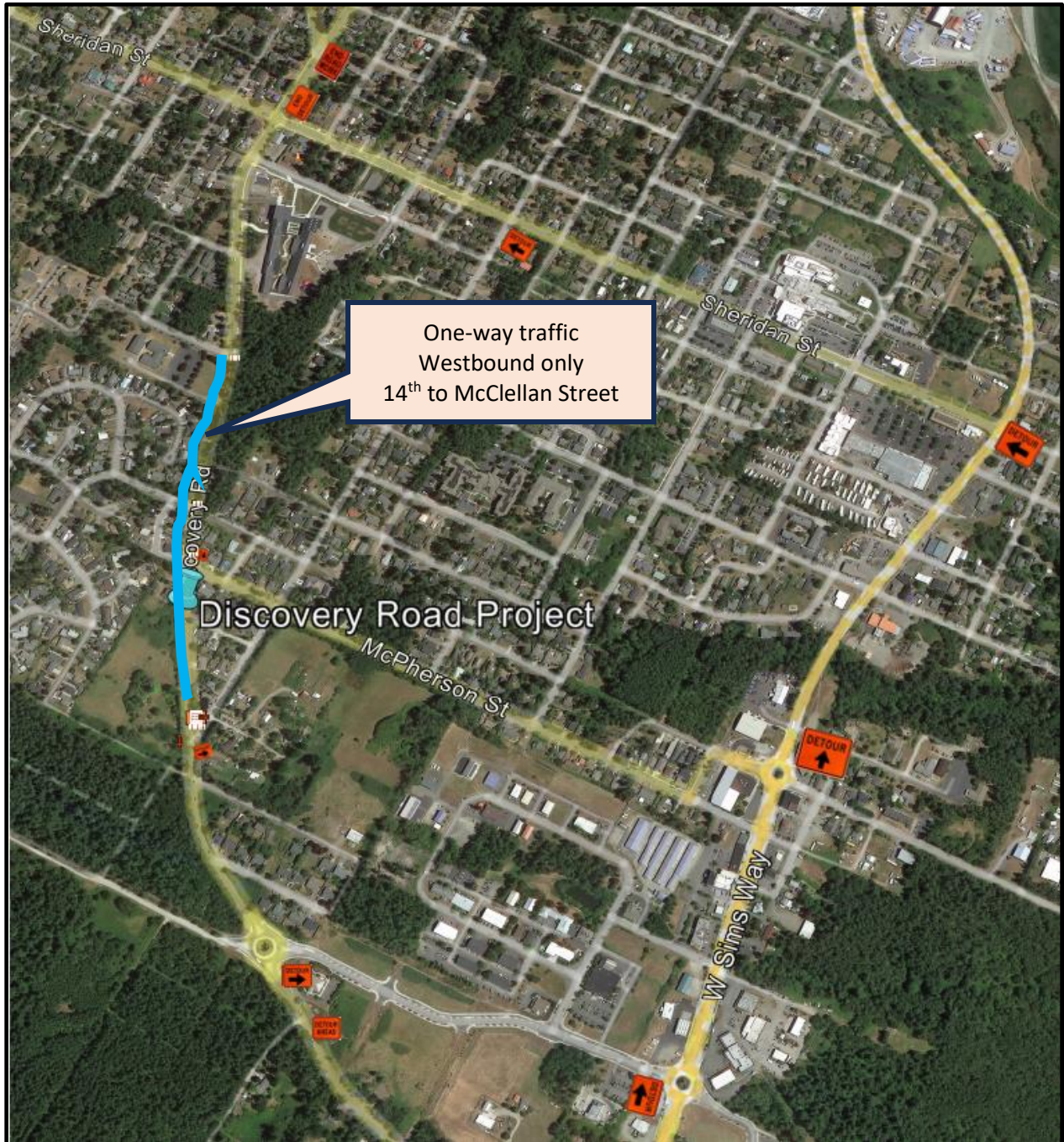
<https://jeffersontransit.com/jefferson-transit-notice/>



Traffic Control During Construction:

When heavy construction gets underway, traffic patterns will need to be modified in the project area. From **November 15, 2023 – March 21, 2024** (dates subject to change), the eastbound lane of Discovery Road (going into town) will be closed so the contractor can safely work on that side of the road. All adjacent property owners will still have access to their driveways, as will any neighbors who live on side streets connected to Discovery Road. Traffic coming into town on Discovery Road will either detour at the roundabout towards Upper Sims Way or will detour heading east on 14th Street. Traffic will be westbound only on Discovery Road between 14th Street and McClellan Street (going out of town). There will be message boards, signs, and flaggers that will help direct traffic.

Traffic Control Plan **November 15, 2023 - March 21, 2024** (dates subject to change)



Blue indicates one lane, westbound traffic (heading out of town). All other streets will be two-way traffic.

Funding:

A project of this scale requires many years of planning and a combination of federal, state, and local dollars, all of which are identified specifically for this project. This project's grant funding is from the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), Washington State's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program, and the Regional Surface Transportation Program (STP). The City went through a rigorous grant application process, and can only use the awarded funding for the Discovery Road Project.

Staying Connected:

You are encouraged to keep up to date about the Discovery Road Project in the following ways: City website, email updates, utility newsletters, project newsletters and social media. This newsletter will be sent out every two months to adjacent property owners and others who request it.

- **Email Updates**

City staff will send out periodic email messages about the Discovery Road Project. If you would like to be added to the email list, please sign up at: <https://cityofpt.us/newsletter/subscriptions>

- **Website**

Review newsletters and background information about the project by visiting the City's website at: <https://cityofpt.us/publicworks/project/discovery-road-bikeway-and-sidewalk-project>

- **Project Contact**

If you have questions about the project, please contact the City's Discovery Road Project Manager, Laura Parsons, P.E. at lparsons@cityofpt.us or 360-774-3017.

