

***The Discovery Road Project – Construction Ongoing***



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 own property that is within 300 feet of the project or have asked to be added to the mailing list.

**Schedule Update:**

The project is scheduled to finish in **June 2024** (date subject to change):

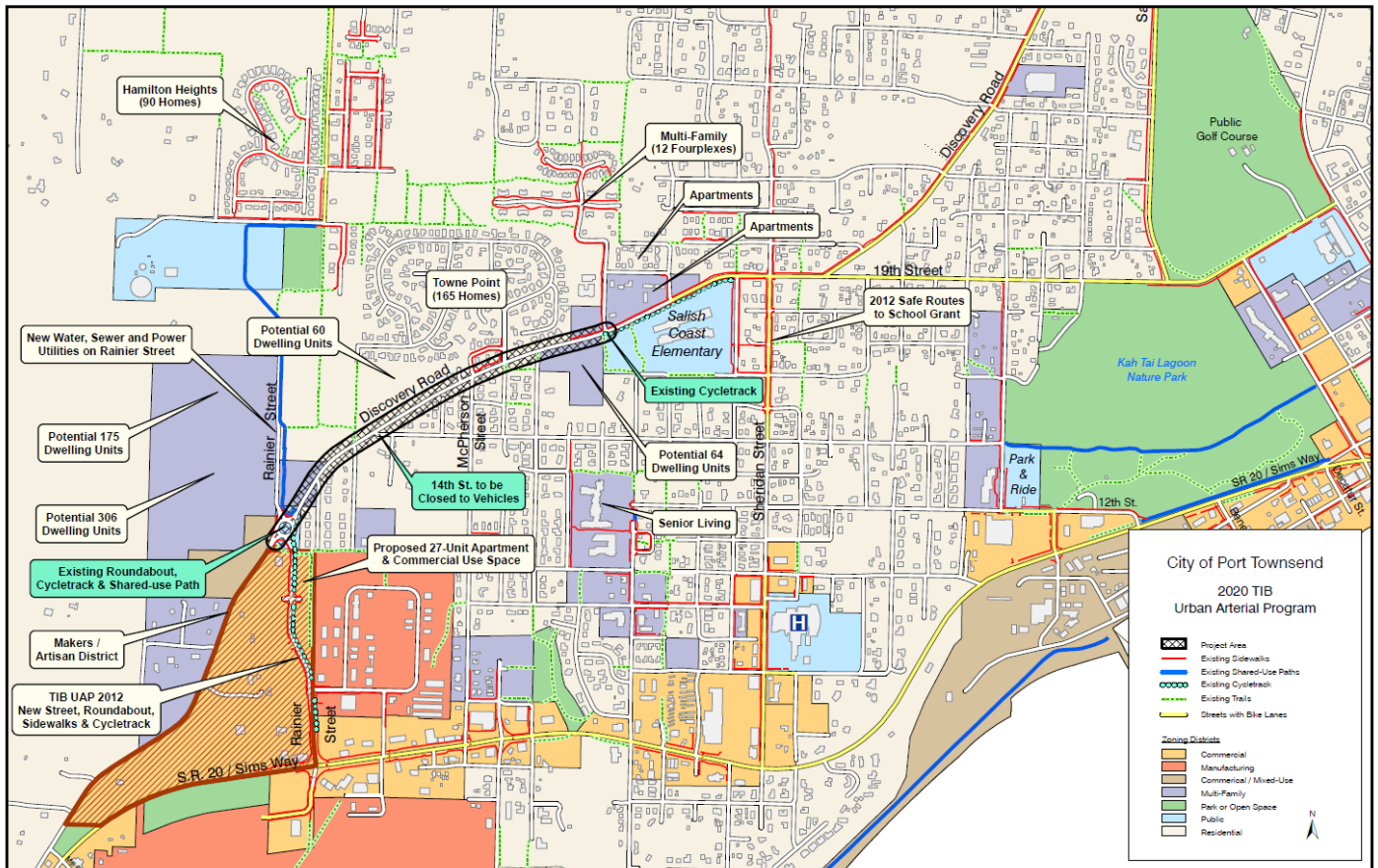
| Date                   | Task   |
|------------------------|--|
| April 9-10, 2024       | Bikeway paving and first layer of road paving                  |
| April 22, 2024         | Permanent closure of 14 <sup>th</sup> Street at Discovery Road |
| Late May 2024          | Final layer of road paving                                     |
| Late May 2024          | Bikeway paving 14 <sup>th</sup> Street to Rainier Street       |
| Late May 2024          | Install raised crosswalk at Sherman Street                     |
| June 2024              | Striping and sign installation                                 |
| June 2024              | Landscaping and irrigation                                     |
| Saturday June 15, 2024 | Ribbon cutting celebration                                     |

**Upcoming Construction Activity:**

Seton Construction, with their paving subcontractor, Lakeside, will complete a series of paving days over the next month and a half. The first paving days happened April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and required periodic full road closures, causing up to one-hour delays for traffic. The bikeway paving between McClellan and 14<sup>th</sup> Street was completed on April 9<sup>th</sup>, with the placement of a 2-inch layer of asphalt. The first 2-inch layer of roadway asphalt was placed between McClellan and 14<sup>th</sup> Street on April 10<sup>th</sup>. When complete, the roadway will have 4-inches of asphalt (installed in two separate 2-inch layers). Additional paving days will be scheduled for mid to late May, and these will be noticed on social media and on our project website.

**Project connectivity:**

The Discovery Road Project is intended to connect multiple community elements with installation of the bikeway, new roadway, and sidewalk. Here is a map showing many of those points of connection:



*This image is from the City's 2020 grant application to the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board.*

**Construction Hours:**

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 City of Port Townsend Planning and Community Development Director.

**Fencing Requirements:**

If you are considering building a fence after the Discovery Road Project is complete, please contact the City's Planning and Community Development Department to get the most current fencing requirements, as these requirements vary by zoning. Contact Robin Hill at [rhill@cityofpt.us](mailto:rhill@cityofpt.us) or Amber Warren at [awarren@cityofpt.us](mailto:awarren@cityofpt.us) to find out what is needed for your particular fence. Depending on what you build back and how high, you may need a building permit. Fences can only be built back on private property. If you would like to put up a new fence after the project, please visit the City 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](https://cityofpt.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_and_community_development/page/8190/information-fence_handout_faq.pdf)



**New Median:**

A median has been constructed between Towne Point and McPherson Street. This median plays a key role in slowing down traffic along the new Discovery Road corridor. Speeding was one of the most frequently voiced concerns by the community about Discovery Road. Medians are a proven tool to slow down traffic because they visually narrow the street, which encourages slower speeds. The median on Discovery Road between Towne Point and McPherson is intended to make the driving lanes feel narrow to encourage reductions in speed. The other safety feature of the new median is that it provides a pedestrian refuge at each end – which makes for safer crossing.



**Ribbon Cutting Celebration:**

You are invited to celebrate the completion of the Discovery Road Project!

On **Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2 – 4 pm**, there will be a **ribbon cutting celebration** and other festivities adjacent to the intersection of McClellan Street and Discovery Road. Bring your family and friends to bike, roller skate, and walk the new Discovery Road corridor! Meet the funding agencies, construction team, the design team, and your neighbors – all who put in so much work and endured many disruptions to their routines in order for this project happen! We can't thank you enough for your support and patience during this remarkable project.



### Traffic Pattern During Construction:

The traffic flow for the remainder of the project will continue to go from east to west (heading out of town). This is different from what was initially planned. However, upon further review by the construction team this was felt to be the safest option for both the community and construction workers. Traffic coming into town on Discovery Road detours at the roundabout towards Upper Sims Way. The boards, signs, and flaggers will continue to help direct traffic. Please drive slowly and carefully through the project zone. Once the project is complete, Discovery Road will go back to being a two-way street, and so much more!

### 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. The next newsletter, to be issued in June 2024, will be the last one for this project.

- **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 [lp Parsons@cityofpt.us](mailto:lp Parsons@cityofpt.us) or 360-774-3017.

