



CITY OF DUNCAN

MEDIA RELEASE

The Ministry of Transportation and the City of Duncan have agreed to a phased project for the proposed landscaped median islands on the Trans Canada Highway in Duncan. This decision follows the feedback received from a March 16, 2006 Public Open House.

Attendees of the Open House raised concerns about how the median islands may affect traffic flow. Concerns ranged from impacts on emergency response vehicles, reduced visibility of business signs, ability of customers to reach the businesses along the corridor and overall ability of the signalized intersections to handle increased traffic loads.

The phasing of this project will allow time for Council and Ministry staff to work with local businesses to mitigate the impacts of the proposals.

The Ministry and Duncan had proposed the islands be constructed immediately following the upcoming pavement recycling with landscaping of some of these islands to occur in the fall.

The proposals include a new median island from Alexander Street to Coronation Avenue and a second island from Trunk Road to Cowichan Way. There is already a median from Coronation Avenue to Trunk Road and some between Trunk Road and Cowichan Way. The existing median islands will be replaced with new islands, reconfigured to allow longer left-turn storage lanes.

The island proposals are intended to improve the safety, mobility and aesthetics of the highway corridor.

The Ministry of Transportation will be rehabilitating the Trans Canada Highway in the Duncan area from Miller Road to James Street. The pavement will be recycled in what is known as "hot in place" recycling. While some preparatory work will be done in April, the recycling will be done in May and June. The work will be done at night in order to minimize disruptions to the traffic. There may be some temporary disruptions to signal operations due to the need to remove and replace traffic loops in the pavement.

The Ministry of Transportation and the City of Duncan will be following up on the concerns raised. We appreciate the input received. Additional comments may be directed to:

Paul Douville, City of Duncan (250) 746-6126
E-mail: Douville@city.duncan.bc.ca

Dave Edgar, Ministry of Transportation (250) 751 -3276
E-mail: David.Edgar@gov.bc.ca