

Operations Department



The Operations Department is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the City's water, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, road and dyke infrastructure, as well as the operation and maintenance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), over 100 parks and sports fields and the City's recreational trail network.

First Quarter Report, 2019



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**

Rotary Trail Equestrian Mounting Blocks

After consultation with representatives from the equestrian community regarding horse use on the Vedder Rotary Trail, mounting blocks were installed just east and west of the Southern Rail Bridge. These blocks were installed in an effort to provide equestrian users a safe means of mounting and dismounting from their horse along the trail. The installation of mounting blocks, in addition to equestrian route signage, provides safe alternatives for equestrian users to avoid trespassing over the railway tracks.



Kinsmen Park to Chartwell Drive Trail

After identifying a pedestrian disconnect between Little Mountain and Kinsmen Park, work on the new connector trail for pedestrians and cyclists was completed. Work included removing organic material along Hope River Road for 260m to allow for a 1.5m wide pathway on the southern side of the road next to the Hope River. Material was then imported and carefully added to the trail route with a grader to provide a safe and enjoyable route for users. This pathway offers a new connection on the Hope River Trail system, while allowing users to enjoy the riverside trail experience.



Sheffield Way Bike Repair Stand

Located conveniently near the Valley Rail Trail, a bicycle repair stand was installed in the dog off-leash area on Sheffield Way for local cyclists. Work included removing some of the parking lot asphalt and pouring concrete in its place as a base for the repair stand. The new repair stand was bolted to the concrete and offers users a range of different tools that may be required to fix their bicycle while using the Valley Rail Trail or to add air to a low tire.



Well #6 Repairs



The City of Chilliwack's water system is supplied with water from eight high capacity water production wells located within the Sardis / Vedder Aquifer area. The depth of each of these wells ranges from 98 – 215 feet and pumping capacity rates range from 50 litres per second to 230 litres per second. During a scheduled inspection of Well #6 (located at Watson Elementary School) staff determined that this well was subject to higher than normal vibration between the pump and motor. Further inspection revealed significant wear in the pump assembly which was causing the vibration. A complete dismantle, removal and rebuild of the well pump was required to remedy this. Along with the pump rebuild, a new line shaft was installed and the discharge piping was recoated prior to the well being put back into service. Originally installed in 1999, this well will now continue to supply over eight million litres of water per day for the residents of Chilliwack.

Winter Operations

This past quarter the City experienced abnormally high temperatures, as well as record low average temperatures and precipitation / snowfall based upon historical data. While January's weather saw above average temperatures combined with below average precipitation, the entire month of February and first half of March experienced the opposite. During a six week period starting in February, Operations crews dealt with a continuous string of below freezing temperatures combined with more than 15 days of recorded snowfall, not including the additional days of drifting snow. To better utilize resources and remind the traveling public of hazards and safe driving practices, a number of initiatives were undertaken, such as:

- Flashing blue pavement markers installed at strategic locations continue to flash to notify drivers when road surface temperatures fall below freezing
- Road cameras and live location temperatures
- Dynamic message boards displaying a reminder to make sure your vehicle is equipped for winter placed at the base of Promontory Road and Teskey Way hills
- Utilization of the increased fleet of winter equipment
- Priority 1, 2, 3 roadways recently added to the Snow and Ice Control Map saw additional service
- New, customized daily weather forecasts for supervisory staff from contracted meteorologists

