Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 5, 2026

To:	Committee of the Whole	**Date:**	February 26, 2026
From:	Councillor Matt Dell and Councillor Dave Thompson		
Subject:	Pandora and Begbie protected mobility lane completion		

BACKGROUND

Victoria's protected bike-and-roll mobility network provides safer facilities used by people on bicycles, electric wheelchairs, and mobility scooters. The network has helped seniors, persons with mobility challenges, parents with toddlers, and others to more safely access local businesses, schools, cultural and recreational spaces, and events. (See the Appendix for more benefits of protected bike-and-roll mobility lanes.)

Council on Feb 15, 2024 unanimously voted to direct staff to install the Shelbourne protected lanes between Haultain and Hillside, using quick-build methods to align with the construction of Shelbourne lanes within the District of Saanich.

There is now an opportunity to link to that project and close two significant gaps in the network to the east of the Cook and Pandora intersection. These would provide safer connections to downtown and other destinations for Victoria residents living in three neighbourhoods, as well as connections to destinations in Saanich and Oak Bay.

The first would run eastbound from Cook along Pandora through the Fernwood neighbourhood to the Junction at Fort Street, connecting to the existing Fort Street protected lanes that run between Jubilee North and Jubilee South neighbourhoods, leading to Oak Bay. The second would branch off of Pandora at Begbie, run between Fernwood and Jubilee neighbourhoods, and connect with the Shelbourne lanes in Oaklands neighbourhood, leading to Saanich.

Staff are already underway with the design of these corridors, however, the proposed deferment of funding from the 2026 Capital Plan for multi-modal corridors would impact the construction of the entirety of these corridors in 2026. It is understood that staff are able and planning to build segments of these corridors in 2026, utilizing major roads paving funding, carry-forward multi-modal budgets (savings from Gorge Road, etc), and that there is a potential for senior government grant funding.

Recommendation

That Council direct staff to:

1) Prioritize expansion of the All Ages and Abilities (AAA) bike and roll mobility network on Pandora street, east of Cook, to connect with both Oak Bay Junction and the Shelbourne protected route via Begbie by the end of 2026.

2) Provide a verbal update to council on the current plans for the expansion of the cycling network in 2026 and what the implications to the 2026 financial plan would be, if any, to complete the Pandora East Begbie/Shelbourne project by the end of 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Matt Dell

Councillor Dave Thompson