

CAO report – June 17, 2025

Construction continues at the Wharton Street infrastructure project with stormwater pipes along Henry now installed, and the installation of pipes and drainage at the Wharton and Henry intersection being worked on. New electrical boxes, foundations for new light posts and underground conduits are being installed. In the coming weeks the project will begin the work on the intersection improvements planned for Main Street and Victoria. Because of the increased use of other parking areas, we continue to enforce the parking rules including the 2-hour time limit in key areas. This ensures that we have a turnover of available parking stalls - we know that parking and movement in the area is a challenge so we have also produced and shared a parking options map with the business community and online. Please keep an eye on Facebook, our website and the dedicated project webpage for more information and for any changes to parking or traffic movement.

We might need to move to early season water restrictions for residents. While most of our reservoirs filled this spring which is a good thing but what is unusual is they have already stopped spilling which means unless we get a lot more rain up in the headwaters soon we are now using that stored water. We are still looking at our options and working with the province on a couple of questions but likely we will need to move to level two water restrictions in the next week or so. This would mean residential sprinklers and residential underground irrigation can only be used twice a week between midnight and 6AM based on your address. Micro irrigation, drip irrigation or a hose with a shut-off nozzle to water trees, shrubs, or vegetables would still be permitted at any time on any day under stage 2. If we need to move to further water restrictions, we will use Facebook and the website to communicate the information and possibly VoyentAlert!

Since 2022 Council has had a published priority to explore a Hotel tax for Summerland. This 3% tax would be paid by the travelling public on overnight accommodations including Air B&B and other online platforms for in-home temporary accommodation. We are having a public information session for tourism stakeholders to learn more about how we are working with Destination Summerland to use those funds for marketing and supporting the visitor economy including product development and other services. The session will be at the George Ryga Arts & Cultural Centre on June 18 from 5-8pm, and will be a drop-in format during that time with a short presentation at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt