

The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project

The Sea-to-Sky Highway links communities from West Vancouver to Whistler. Set in a mountain landscape, the highway presents complex engineering and construction challenges. British Columbia's Ministry of Transportation is making improvements to the highway to improve its safety, capacity and reliability, and improvements include widening, straightening and improved sightlines. The project will be completed by fall of 2009 and is expected to result in 30 percent fewer crashes each year.



Squamish to Whistler

3 lanes throughout this section, including improved two-lane sections and alternating passing opportunities provided by alternating 3rd lane.

North of Murrin Park through Squamish

4-lane divided highway. This section will include median barriers throughout, including the addition of urban design features to the median within Squamish.

North of Lions Bay to Murrin Park

2, 3 and 4 lane sections, about half of which includes improved 2 lanes, and the remainder includes additional passing opportunities with 3 and 4 lanes. 4 lane sections will include median barrier to prevent crossover accidents. Sections adjacent to Murrin Park and in the community of Britannia will include improved 2-lanes, which is consistent with community input from pre-design consultations. In Furry Creek, there will be 3 lanes moving to 4 lanes with median barrier.

West Vancouver to Lions Bay

4-lane sections with continuous median barrier, including straightening, widening and improved sightlines, eliminating several sharp curves.

Completed Sections

Culliton to Cheakamus - This 7 km section was completed in late 2004 and is now 3 lanes with an alternating passing lane.

Ansell Place to Lions Bay - This 7 km section is now complete, more than a year ahead of schedule. Improvements in this section include 4 lanes with median barrier.

The Benefits of Partnership

Within the project budget, the private sector contractor, S2S Transportation Group, is able to provide significant additional safety and value beyond what could have been built by the Ministry of Transportation under traditional procurement. Here are some examples of the added value we are receiving by partnering with the private sector.

- 33% more passing lanes for a total of 80 kilometres of passing lanes along the 100 kilometre highway between Horseshoe Bay and Whistler
- 80% more median barriers for a total of 36 kilometres of median barrier along the length of the highway
- Highly reflective pavement markings installed along the length of the highway
- A traffic management regime with 50% fewer delays and closures