



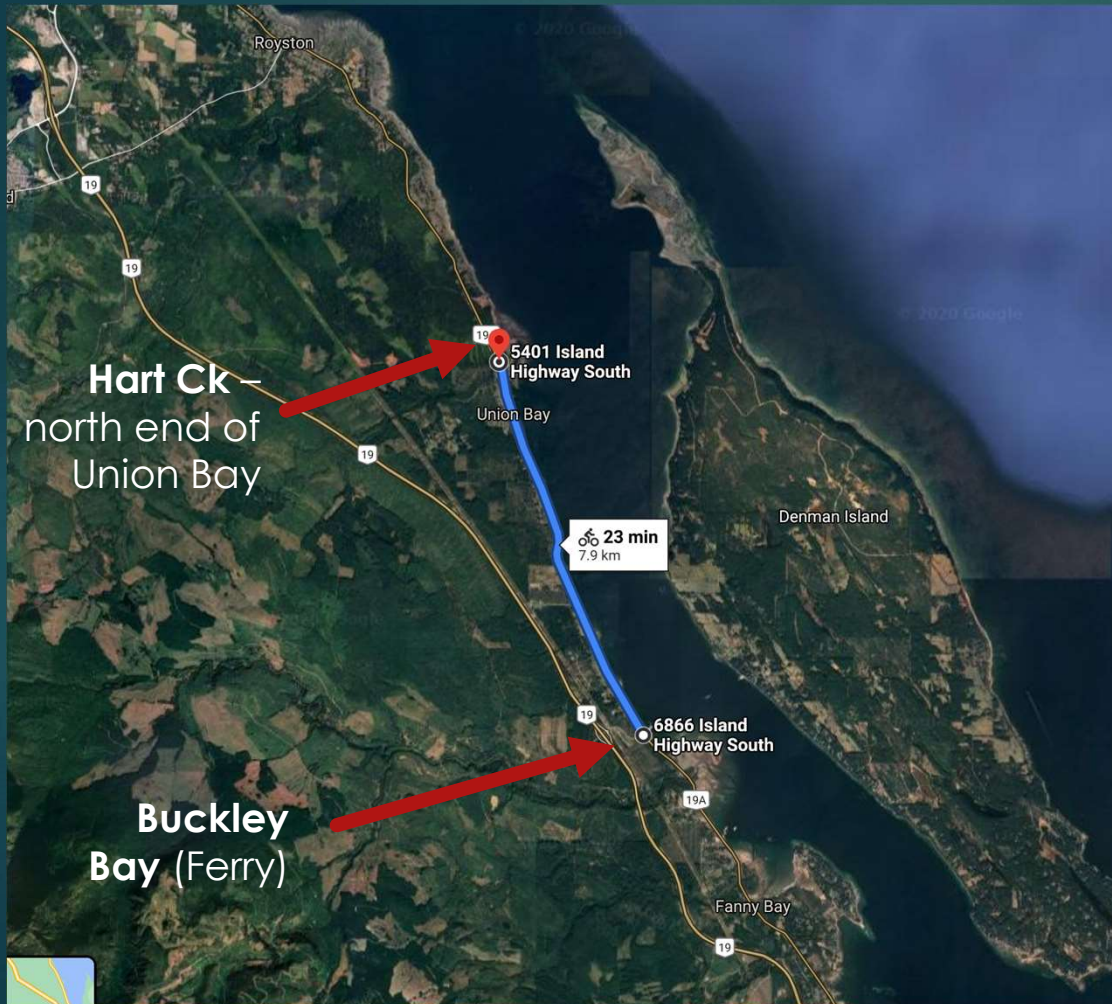
Union Bay to Buckley Bay

Infrastructure Notes

COMOX VALLEY CYCLING COALITION

OCTOBER 2020

Union Bay/Buckley Bay – Locator Map



- Approx **8 km** on Highway 19A from Hart Creek to Buckley Bay Ferry
- Users are a combination of leisure cyclists, local commuter bikes and “bike-packer” island tourism
- Old Island Highway is busy with local, commercial and tourism traffic
- Speed limit is **80km/h** except 60 km/h through Union Bay (~2km)

Southbound 19A @ Hart Ck Bridge

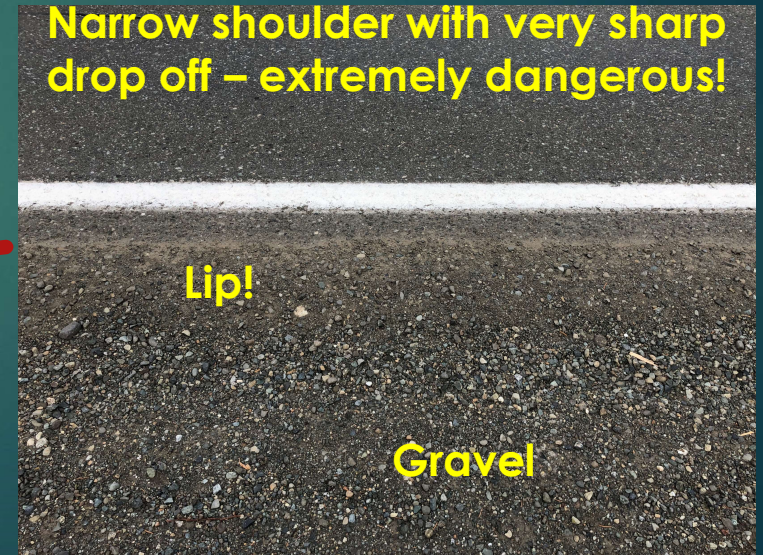


- Shoulder narrows significantly near Hart Creek bridge.
- Very dangerous situation for cyclists in a high speed/high volume traffic area (80 km/h)

Narrow shoulder with very sharp drop off – extremely dangerous!

Lip!

Gravel



Inconsistent and Degraded Shoulders



- Shoulder on both sides of 19A through Union Bay is inconsistent and dangerous
- Too narrow for cyclists in many places. Where it widens, it is often severely degraded and includes numerous access roads.



Not Much Room for Error....



Inconsistent and Degraded Shoulders

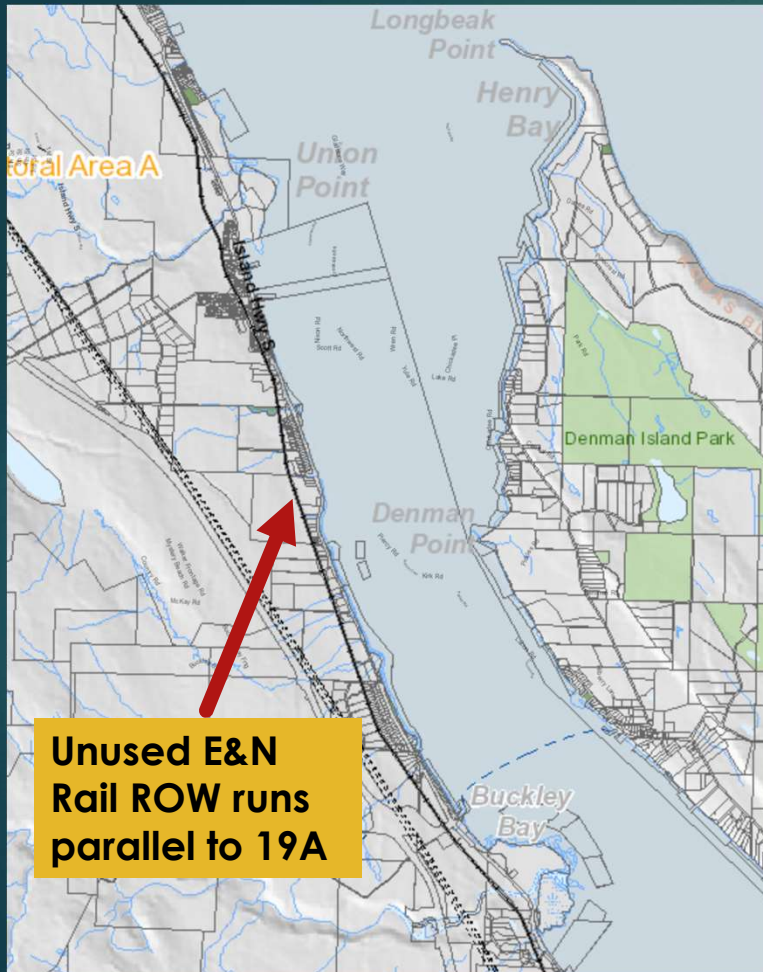


2020 Paving Project

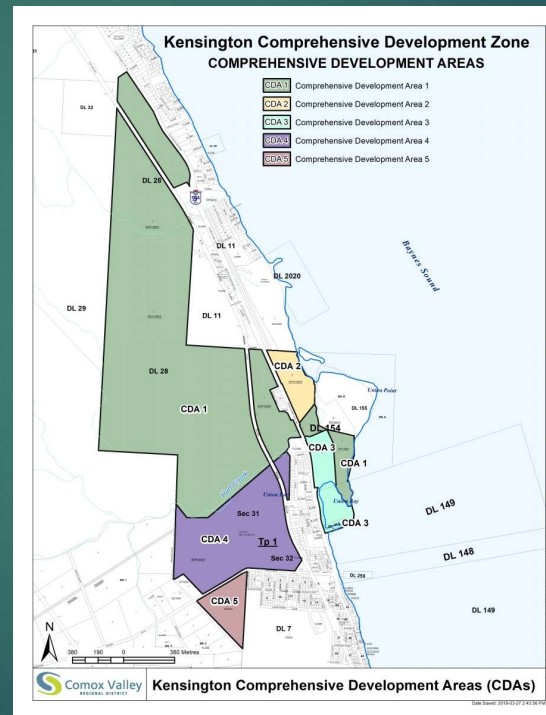


- 2020 shoulder paving project.
- Completed 2.9km going north from Tsable River (Ferry) to Baynes Sound on east side of HWY 19A.
- Much safer (wider and smoother) riding surface

E&N Rail to Trail Project



Union Bay Estates



- Union Bay Estates project will bring increased traffic and cycling volumes
- Consider long term viability of **E&N multi-use trail network** to take cyclists and pedestrians off 19A from Courtenay to Qualicum and beyond (www.fortvi.ca)



Recommendations



- **Repair potholes and hazards** on existing shoulders (both sides).
- Investigate methods to prevent gravel from access roads coming onto shoulders.
- **Continue east side shoulder paving** project from Baynes Sound to bridge at Hart Creek (~5km).
- **Install paved shoulder on west side** of 19A as well. Shoulder width to meet BC Design Guidelines.
- Ensure **Union Bay Estates development** provides for **enhanced active transportation network** in the Union Bay area
- Review option to rehabilitate **E&N Railway ROW** as a **multi-use pathway**. Buckley Bay to Union Bay could be a good test section. This would take many leisure users off Highway 19A.