



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Construction starting soon on FortisBC Gas Line Upgrades

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**Surrey, B.C. – January 15, 2019:** Work resumes upgrading FortisBC's natural gas line in February – with construction coming to east Burnaby and Coquitlam. FortisBC is upgrading 20 kilometres of gas line between Vancouver to Coquitlam to ensure more than 210,000 Lower Mainland homes and businesses continue to receive the natural gas they count on every day.

Work started last year in Vancouver and Burnaby, and in 2019 the project will move east with construction on Lougheed Highway and Broadway in Burnaby and on Como Lake Avenue in Coquitlam.

"We understand it can be disruptive to have a major construction project in your neighbourhood, which is why our goal is to complete work safely and as quickly as possible," said Doug Stout, vice-president, market development and external relations, FortisBC. "We want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding, both so far and as we complete construction this year."

The gas line upgrade between Vancouver to Coquitlam is scheduled to be completed in 2019, with 12 kilometres of new gas line being built and roads along the project route facing disruptions during construction. The community can stay informed, including on traffic, through the project website [TalkingEnergy.ca](http://TalkingEnergy.ca).

FortisBC will also continue engaging directly with the community throughout the year, including public information sessions on February 5 in Coquitlam and February 12 in Burnaby.

"We were on the ground engaging directly with residents and businesses to minimize disruptions to local neighbourhoods and traffic last year," said Stout. "And we look forward to being out in the community providing that same support again in 2019."

The gas line being upgraded is nearing the end of its operational life after serving the community for 60 years.

A total of 8 kilometres of new line was built in Vancouver and Burnaby in 2018, including on East 1st Avenue which re-opened on schedule at the end of August. Natural gas facilities on Woodland Drive in Vancouver and Mariner Way in Coquitlam are also being upgraded as part of the project.

#### **About FortisBC**

*FortisBC Energy Inc. is a regulated utility focused on providing safe and reliable energy, including natural gas, propane and thermal energy solutions. FortisBC Energy Inc. employs more than 1,800 British Columbians and serves approximately 1,008,400 customers in 135 B.C. communities. FortisBC Energy Inc. owns and operates approximately 49,000 kilometres of natural gas transmission and distribution pipelines. FortisBC Energy Inc. is a subsidiary of Fortis Inc., a leader in the North American regulated electric and gas utility industry. For further information visit [www.fortisinc.com](http://www.fortisinc.com).*

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# Backgrounder

## Quick facts, upgrading our Vancouver to Coquitlam gas line

**20 kilometres** new natural gas line will be built in 2018 and 2019 as part of the FortisBC Gas Line Upgrades, including:

**In 2018:** 8 kilometres of new line was built in Vancouver and Burnaby, mostly along East 1st Avenue and Lougheed Highway.

**In 2019:** 12 kilometres of new line will be built in Burnaby and Coquitlam, mostly along Broadway and Como Lake Avenue.

**Mid-February** periodic lane closures at various locations required to locate underground utilities such as water lines in preparation for our gas line upgrades

**Early-March** full construction scheduled to start and lane closures in effect

**1958** year the gas line being replaced was built

**30-inch** gas line will replace the existing 20-inch line, building capacity to support Lower Mainland's growing communities

**210,000** FortisBC customers served by this natural gas line

## Gas line upgrade route



## Road disruptions

The table below is based on our current construction schedule. For the latest updates and to stay up to date on schedule changes visit [TalkingEnergy.ca](http://TalkingEnergy.ca) or search #FortisBCUpgrades.

Burnaby	Cross streets	Status	Scheduled to start
Lougheed Hwy	Springer Ave intersection	Lane closures on Lougheed Hwy and Springer Ave.	March 2019

Lougheed Hwy	Madison Ave intersection	Lane closures on Lougheed Hwy and Madison Ave.	February 2019
Lougheed Hwy	Between Sperling Ave and Bainbridge Ave	Lane closures.	February 2019
Bainbridge Ave	Between Lougheed Hwy and Broadway	Local traffic and emergency services only.	March 2019
Broadway	Between Bainbridge Ave and Underhill Ave	Local traffic and emergency services only.	March 2019
Broadway/Gaglardi Way	Production Way to North Rd	Lane closures.	April 2019

Coquitlam	Cross streets	Status	Scheduled to start
Como Lake Ave	Between North Rd and Robinson St	Lane closures.	March 2019
Como Lake Ave	Between Robinson and Gatensbury St	Lane closures, with westbound traffic restricted to local, emergency and bus access only.	May 2019
Como Lake Ave	Between Gatensbury St and Linton St	Lane closures, with westbound traffic restricted to local, emergency and bus access only.	March 2019
Como Lake Ave	Between Linton St and Baker Drive	Lane closures.	May 2019
Como Lake Ave	Between Baker Drive and Mariner Way	Lane closures on Como Lake Ave. Detour on Spuraway Ave, east of Mariner Way.	July 2019

### Tips for planning ahead and avoiding unnecessary delays

Whatever your mode of transportation, plan ahead by checking FortisBC's TalkingEnergy.ca website or local traffic media before you go for the latest information on upcoming road closures. In general, driving times will be longer than usual so consider the alternatives:

- **Know your route before you commute:** The latest traffic updates will available at TalkingEnergy.ca
- **Choose public transit:** Avoid congestion by leaving vehicles parked at home
- **Adjust your routine:** Travel outside of rush hour, if you can
- **Change your mode:** Take more trips by walking or biking, whenever possible
- **Share a ride:** If driving is a must, consider carpooling with someone who's going your way
- **Take your time:** No matter how you go, arriving at your destination will take longer