

# DAF Monthly Message

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT, NEW PRE-TREATMENT SYSTEM

October 2018

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### **What's the latest?**

An apology. We thought, and therefore announced, that trail would re-open on Monday, Oct. 8. As observant trail fans know, it did not. However, we have been given a new "fixed and firm" date of Friday, Oct. 26. I am sorry we were not able to re-open on the date we originally announced, I know that was frustrating for all who have been waiting so patiently.



### **And what else?**

The new Dissolved Air Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) building is up and running! Water is flowing through the new system and cleaning and clarifying the water with great efficiency. The majority of the solids are being removed and floated to the surface as part of this process. (*pictured at left*)

We are completing testing of all equipment and systems in the DAF building and are now gearing up to test the hypochlorite-generation equipment. This is the equipment (*pictured below*) that will allow us to develop low-strength (i.e. less than household bleach) chlorine, which is much safer for our plant operators.

### **So what's left to do?**



We are finishing up electrical work on the hypochlorite-generation equipment, as we prepare to test the pumps, tanks and control system. We continue to work on landscaping around the site, finishing the stormwater infrastructure, and preparing to pave.

**Also good to know:** Work hours are 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and until 3:30 p.m. on Fridays, with occasional Saturday work. Flaggers may still be on-site at Whatcom Falls Park.

If you've missed any of these monthly updates, they are archived on the [City's website](#), along with more project information. From the home page, "search" Capital Projects, then DAF. You'll find the updates going all the way back to 2016 when construction first began.

**Why we're doing this:** To make sure the City's drinking water, which is drawn from Lake Whatcom, is as clean and safe as it can be. We're building the Dissolved Air Flotation pre-treatment plant to remove as many particulates as possible from the water, to maximize the City's

Water Treatment Plant efficiency. And because the goal for this new facility is to ensure that it will *maximize the efficiency* of our current water treatment plant in the *safest way* possible, we are leaving behind chlorine gas and moving to hypochlorite which we create on-site because it is safer.