



# Country Lanes



Before



After

## The Country Lane

The City of Vancouver is developing an alternative to the traditional asphalt lane. This new "Country Lane" uses materials that allow rainwater to infiltrate into the ground while providing a durable surface for vehicles to drive on. The first lane in this pilot project has just been constructed providing residents with a space that calms traffic, is aesthetically pleasing and is more environmentally responsible. Three locations have been chosen as trial demonstration lanes. The City will monitor the costs, maintenance, and functionality of each of these projects. The three locations were chosen because of strong community support and commitment by its residents to help maintain and promote this concept.

The picture above shows the City's first Country Lane, located south of the 700 block of E 27<sup>th</sup> Ave.



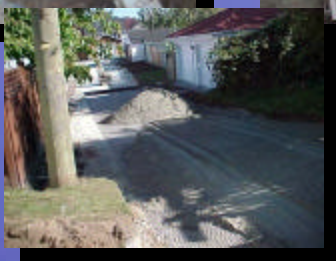
The Grand Opening held on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mayor Philip Owen on the left and Project Manager Wally Konowalchuk on the right

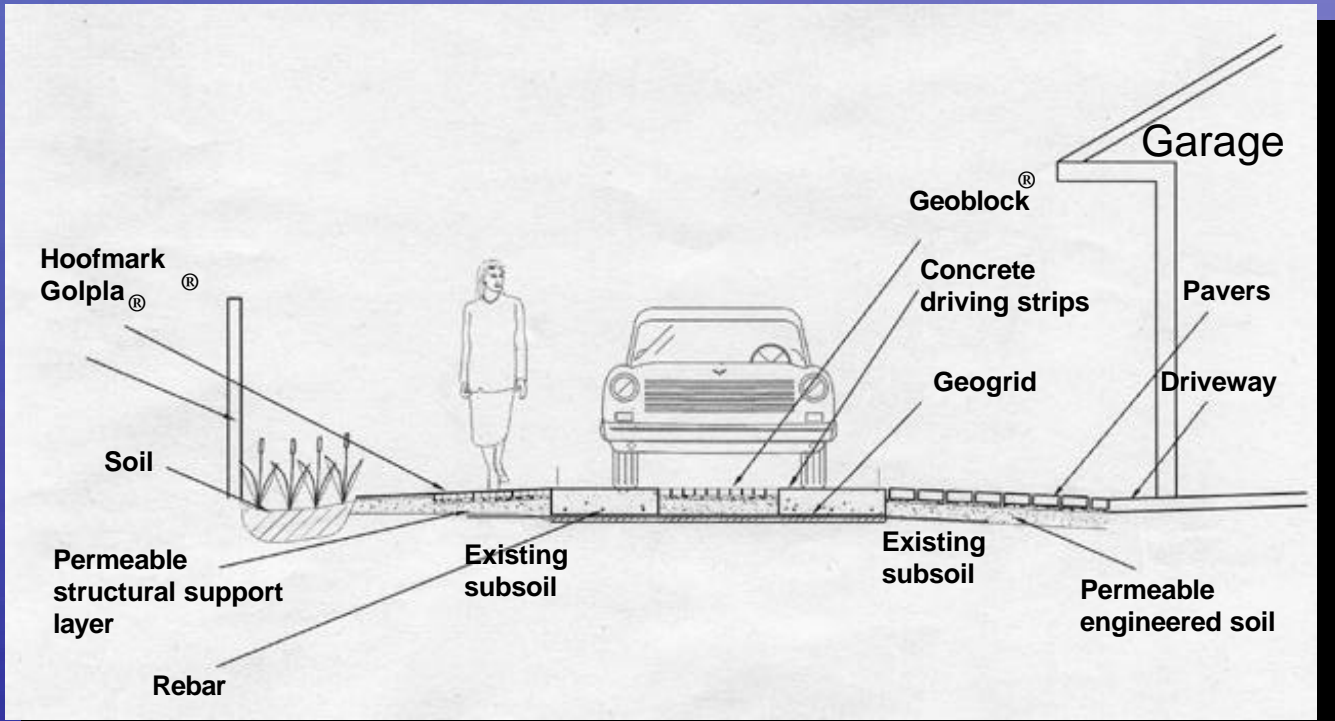


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## Country Lane....a closer look



Construction highlights along the way





# Country Lanes

## In detail...

The Structural Grass (**Geoblock** and **Golpla** Structures) functions to:

- support vehicle weights, spreads loading
- prevents soil and grass root compaction
- prevents soil rutting

Topsoil - fills the plastic cells providing a medium for grass growth; provides water retention during dry periods and allows drainage during storm events



Geoblock Structural grass

Golpla Structural grass

The Golpla Structural grass filled with top soil and seeded

Engineered Soil



Engineered Soil:

- developed by the City of Vancouver
- contains ~ 70% ¾" aggregate
- ~ 30% sand / soil mixture
- provides structural stability
- allows drainage
- provides nutrients and water required for grass growth

Top picture shows empty Geoblock cell then filled with topsoil and subsequently turfed



# Country Lanes

## Country Lane benefits

### Environmental benefits:

- Reduced flow into City's Sewer System
- Provides natural drainage and replenishes groundwater
- Natural filtration
- Improved air quality

### Other benefits:

- Greener and more attractive back lanes
- Reduces vehicle speeds



Community members rolled up their sleeves and joined in to help complete this project.

## Community Involvement

Community involved in all aspects from the design to construction of this lane. The goal was to educate public and bring awareness to issues of storm water management, and help residents take ownership of their lane.