

Gerrard Street East TTC Track Reconstruction 2006

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is this work needed?

Yes. The 506 and 306 Carlton streetcar track reconstruction is being done as part of the Toronto Transit Commission's "State of Good Repair/Safety" program that will see the majority of the TTC's streetcar network reconstructed over the next few years. Replacement of the streetcar tracks will improve the comfort, and quality of the streetcar service for transit users, and reduce the current noise from tracks for local residents and businesses.

Where will track reconstruction occur?

The stretch of streetcar track on Gerrard Street East from Coxwell Avenue to Enderby Road (just west of Main Street) will be reconstructed.

I take the 506 and 306 Carlton streetcar. What will happen to streetcar service during construction?

There will not be streetcar service on Gerrard Street East between Coxwell and Main Street for the duration of the project. The TTC will publicize and post updated service changes along the impacted sections and at various subway stations. In addition, the TTC will hand out the information to customers riding the Carlton 506 streetcars and provide information to the community via mailings. For up-to-date service details call the TTC Information Line at (416) 393-INFO (4636) or visit www.ttc.ca.

Why is the TTC not providing additional transit service along Gerrard Street?

The roadway, after excavation, will be far too narrow to safely accommodate a standard transit bus. Also, no other TTC vehicles are available to provide such service.

How will traffic be affected in the active construction zones?

One westbound lane of traffic will remain open in the active construction zones on Gerrard Street East for the duration of the project. For construction staging purposes, eastbound traffic will not be permitted through the active construction zones.

Some one-way streets will be temporarily converted to two-way streets during construction. Conversion will occur one to three days before excavation approaches the street.

Will the entire stretch of streetcar tracks on Gerrard Street East be under construction at the same time?

No. Where possible, local traffic will remain open in both directions, outside of the active work zones until construction approaches the area.

Please note that the entire stretch of tracks is scheduled for completion in early June 2006.

***These timelines are subject to change depending on weather conditions or any other unforeseen events.

Over...

How long will the new tracks last?

Reconstruction of the TTC's streetcar track network is based on a new design standard and a life cycle approach to replacement. The new tracks will require a reduced amount of track maintenance over the years to come and will last about 30 years.

How will parking on Gerrard Street East be affected during construction?

Parking on Gerrard Street East will generally be unavailable in the construction zone. Potential temporary parking locations are being studied in an effort to provide some additional spots.

How can I keep my medical appointments?

Please contact the on-site City inspector one to two days in advance of your appointment in order to ensure your vehicle can access your home.

What is rail welding?

Before we start each phase of the streetcar track reconstruction, the TTC will deliver, weld and store the welded rails for the new streetcar tracks. Rail welding involves welding standard lengths of rail into longer "strings" up to 300 feet, which allows for much faster track construction and reduces disruption to the community. Preparations for the project will begin with the welding and storage of rails along Gerrard Street. Welding will take place from **March 27th to April 3rd**.

***No through traffic, left turns, or parking, will be permitted within the welding sites. The City and TTC will make efforts to find temporary parking on side streets.

Where are the streetcar tracks being welded and stored?

A rail welding crew will occupy the two centre lanes on Gerrard Street, between Main Street and Malvern Avenue. The rail strings will be stored in these two centre lanes in front of the Ted Reeve Arena.

Will the construction be noisy?

As with any major construction project, noise can be expected. Track installation will proceed on a continuous 24-hour per day basis throughout the week with weekend work as required. Noise associated with welding and track construction activities should be expected at all times. However, efforts will be made to minimize this noise at night.

Why are you working through the night?

Working during the night is necessary to maintain the progression of this project. During the overnight hours the TTC will be carrying out the quieter activities related to rail installation. However, at times the TTC workers may need to drag rails, weld and continue the installation of the streetcar tracks in preparation for the following day's work. Without overnight work the time to complete the construction and return streetcar service would double.

What will happen to my recycling and garbage pick-up?

Please follow your normal garbage and recycling collection schedules.

How will I keep informed about the project?

Prior to all individual phases of the streetcar track reconstruction project, the City of Toronto and the TTC will provide detailed information by mail or hand delivery. Information will also be provided on the City's website www.toronto.ca/involved, and at www.ttc.ca.