

June 30, 2017

City Clerk's Office
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Response to Administrative Inquiry**Re: Military Trail Road Closure from Ellesmere Road to Highcastle Road for Emergency Road and Watermain Repair**

Councillor Paul Ainslie submitted an Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-61 to seek information regarding Contract 16TW-OS-27CWD, Emergency Work – Military Trail Road Closure from Ellesmere Road to Highcastle Road for Emergency Road and Watermain Repair.

Background**What was the original scope of work to be performed?**

The scope of work included the cleaning and structural re-lining of the watermain on Military Trail from Neilson Road to Highland Creek as part of the Council-approved Capital Works Program. It also included the replacement of the City-owned portion of any substandard water service pipes. See attached February 6, 2017 Construction Notice.

Why is the road closed?

During construction, and unrelated to the project, a section of the watermain (west of the original work location) broke which caused significant damage to a section of the road. For this reason the road closure was extended on April 3, 2017 because it was no longer safe for vehicular traffic.

What work must be done before the road can be open for vehicles?

The scope of the original watermain cleaning and re-lining project was extended to include the portion from Highland Creek to Ellesmere Road in order to minimize further damage to the road and to rehabilitate the watermain as quickly as possible. This work is currently underway and expected to be completed this fall. See attached May 3, 2017 Construction Update.

In addition, while the watermain is being rehabilitated, a geotechnical investigation of the road structure must be completed to assess damage and develop an appropriate road rehabilitation strategy. Once this is completed, a road rehabilitation contract will be prepared and tendered and further information about the timing of the road work can be established and communicated to the public.

The basis of the Administrative Inquiry is to seek answers to the following questions:

1. Why is Military Trail not a priority to repair as is being done with other roads in downtown Toronto?

The watermain break discovered on April 3, 2017 had been running for a period of time before it was identified, and as a result significant damage to the road occurred. This damage includes:

- numerous locations where the roadway has broken up (severe cracking and potholes);
- large deviations and distortions of the pavement surface;
- grade depressions and water ponding on the travelled portion caused by the water runoff from the watermain break; and
- pavement edge surface loss with broken edges of pavement at many locations that extend more than a metre inward from the edge of the surface asphalt.

Given the extent of the damage, a geotechnical review of the pavement structure and a permanent repair needs to be completed before the road can safely be reopened to the public.

2. Why did it take several weeks for Toronto Water to advise Transportation Services Scarborough District that a section of the road on Military Trail had collapsed making it unsafe to reopen causing undo delay for repair?

Toronto Water staff have been in frequent communication with Transportation Services staff throughout the initial project and during the subsequent emergency repair without delay. Staff from several Divisions (i.e. Toronto Water, Transportation Services, Engineering & Construction Services and Strategic Communications) have been working collaboratively to resolve problems as they have presented themselves. A summary of communication with Transportation Services staff is follows:

- Toronto Water and Transportation Services staff meet during January and February to discuss the initial project and information from the Work Zone Traffic Coordinator in Transportation Services regarding the requirements for traffic restrictions is issued in early February. Work on the initial project commenced later that month.
- On March 31, 2017, Toronto Water staff were called to investigate a watermain break outside the project limits and turned off the watermain to allow for repairs.
- On April 3, 2017, Toronto Water issues a road disruption notification indicating that repair work will commence and last for a week. As repair work proceeded, staff became aware of extensive damage to the road structure beyond originally contemplated. Toronto Water and Transportation Services staff are in frequent communication during the first two weeks of April assessing the road damage and extending the closure due to safety concerns.
- By the middle of April, Transportation Services staff determine the damage is too extensive and the road is unsafe to reopen. This information is conveyed to the Councillor's office.
- During the last two weeks of April, Toronto Water, Strategic Communications and Transportation Services staff consult on a public notification strategy.
- During the first week in May, staff from Toronto Water, Transportations Services and Engineering & Construction Services met to develop a strategy on how to proceed with the rehabilitation of the road.
- May 13, 2017 Toronto Water staff issued a Construction Update to area residents and on May 18, 2017 Strategic Communications issued a News Release and an update on Twitter.

3. Why was this road repair not deemed an emergency for repair immediately instead of being pushed to Fall 2017?

Transportation Services and Toronto Water are working as expeditiously as possible to reopen Military Trail. However, there has been significant damage to the roadway surface and sub-surface. As the scope of damage to the roadway has not yet been fully determined, and the watermain rehabilitation is ongoing, it has not been possible to undertake emergency repairs. Furthermore, any interim repairs that could be undertaken might have to be re-done as part of the permanent rehabilitation which would result in an inefficient use of funds.

The full scope of the damage to Military Trail cannot be determined until the geotechnical survey is complete, which in turn cannot be completed until the watermain replacement is finished.

Once the survey has been completed, a repair and rehabilitation plan will be developed collaboratively between Transportation Services, Toronto Water and Engineering & Construction Services. Preliminary timelines suggest that if the road repairs are minor and there are no significant delays to the rehabilitation work, the road may be reopened in late 2017. However, if a major road reconstruction is required, or there are other unforeseen delays, reopening may not occur until 2018.

4. Residents are reporting that no work is currently being done onsite, please advise if this is the case?

This site is essentially now divided into two phases: Phase I being the “original” scope section between Highland Creek and Neilson Road, and Phase II being the “extension” section west of Highland Creek.

Work on Phase I commenced in February 2017 for the segment between Highland Creek and Highcastle Road. With that section now completed, the Contractor is working on the segment between Highcastle Road and Neilson Road. This section has water services which require placement on temporary water bypass. The bypass has been placed and the Contractor is attempting to achieve successful disinfection results so he can turn on the bypass and isolate the watermain. Water quality testing began on April 21, and since then has been unsuccessful on several occasions. Until the bypass is activated, lining activity cannot commence. Therefore, apart from the occasional disinfection and flushing work there will not be much site activity while water samples are undergoing testing. It is reasonable, therefore, for the typical resident to perceive there to be little to no construction activity in this section.

Work on Phase II extension is active since a bypass pipe is not required here. This activity is confined to the section of road that is closed to the public so it may not be obvious that construction is occurring.

5. Why is the road and watermain work in this community not being harmonized to ensure that residents can safely and efficiently travel to and from their homes and are notices in place at the locations?

Given that the required road rehabilitation work was not planned as part of the City's capital works program, it is difficult to fully coordinate the project as the work will need to be completed under different contracts (one contract is already active and the other has yet to be tendered).

Staff from Toronto Water, Transportation Services and Engineering & Construction Services have been working to develop a strategy that is appropriate for the conditions that have occurred.

As a result, the scope of the original watermain cleaning and re-lining project was extended to include the portion from Highland Creek to Ellesmere Road in order to minimize further damage to the road and to rehabilitate the watermain as quickly as possible. A geotechnical investigation of the road structure must be completed to properly assess the road damage and develop an appropriate rehabilitation strategy. Once this is completed, a road rehabilitation contract can be prepared and tendered and further information about the timing of the road work can be communicated.

Regarding notices, on May 13, 2017 Toronto Water staff issued a Construction Update to area residents and on May 18, 2017 Strategic Communications issued a News Release and an update on Twitter. Construction site signage is in place to help motorists detour around the construction area. Further Construction updates will be issued as information becomes available.

6. Advise if the road repairs on Military Trail can be addressed immediately for vehicle access

It is not possible at this time to provide safe vehicular access via Military Trail. Providing this access will be subject to the determination of the full scope of roadway damage and the completion of repairs or reconstruction accordingly.

Sincerely,



Lou Di Geronimo
General Manager, Toronto Water



Barbara Gray
General Manager, Transportation Services

February 6, 2017

Watermain Cleaning and Relining on Military Trail

Contract: 16TW-OS-27CWD
Start Date: Week of February 20, 2017
End Date: May 2017
**Timeline is subject to change.*

The City of Toronto will be cleaning and structurally re-lining the watermain in your area starting mid-February. During this process, the City will also replace the City-owned portion of any substandard water service pipes.

A map of the work area can be found on page 3 of this notice.

The water service is the underground pipe that brings water to your water meter and is owned by you and by the City. The part you own is from your house to the end of your property. The part the City owns is from the end of your property to the watermain.

This project is part of the Council-approved 2016 Capital Works Program to renew our aging infrastructure, improve water distribution and reduce the risk of watermain breaks.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD WATER SERVICES


If you live in a house that was built before the mid-1950s, your water service may be made of lead. Please read the attached fact sheet with important information about the risks of lead in drinking water, especially if someone in your house is pregnant, there are children under six years old, or there is an infant drinking formula made from tap water.








WORK DETAILS

- In the first few weeks, the City’s contractor will move equipment on-site and prepare the work area before construction begins. Construction crews will then:
- Excavate pits in the road to access the watermain
 - Install a temporary water supply system and attach homes to the supply
 - Clean and structurally re-line the existing watermain
 - Replace any City-owned water service pipes that do not meet City standards (from the watermain to the private property line)
 - Remove the temporary water supply and restore all work areas with asphalt, concrete or grass

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

- You may experience dust, noise and other inconveniences. The City will make efforts to reduce the impacts. We appreciate your patience.
- Property owners should remove items located within City property limits (boulevard), such as landscaping and / or decorative objects. If you have a sprinkler system within the boulevard, please contact the Field Ambassador listed at the end of this notice.
- The City will not be responsible for damage to any privately owned items on City property.

	Work Hours: Work will take place from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm., Monday to Friday, with work after hours and on weekends as required.
---	--

	<p>Access to Your Home: The City-hired contractor may need access to your home to complete a pre-construction survey and install shut off valves. The contractor will deliver a pre-construction survey request to schedule a time to complete the survey.</p>
	<p>Water Service Disruptions: From time-to-time, the water supply to your property will need to be shut-off to complete construction; the contractor will provide at least 24-hour advance notice. Throughout the work, it is recommended that you temporarily disconnect any water treatment systems (i.e. softeners or filters), water-cooled air conditioners or similar plumbing fixtures. Automatic lawn sprinkler systems may also be affected, therefore, you may need to water manually. In the event you did not receive advanced notice, an emergency water shut off could have been necessary.</p>
	<p>Substandard Water Service Replacement: Please take the time to read the attached fact sheet carefully as it contains important information on lead in drinking water and how to prepare for replacement. If you want to replace your part of the water service pipe, you contact the City's contractor for one of your quotes.</p> <p>Water Service Replacement Contractor: Company/Contractor: Aquarehab Contact Person: Yvan Tasco Phone: 1-450-687-3472 Contract No.: 16TW-OS-27CWD</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: Homeowners are encouraged to obtain several quotes before selecting a contractor. The City is not able to get involved in any contract for work done on private property. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring contractors do not interfere with the work being done on City property.</p>
	<p>Road and Sidewalk Access: In order to complete the work in a safe manner, there will be road and sidewalk restrictions within the construction work zone. Access for emergency vehicles will be maintained at all times.</p> <p>Driveway Access: The contractor will notify you of any temporary restrictions to your driveway access. If your property has two entrances, one entrance will be kept open at all times.</p>
	<p>Traffic Management: Efforts have been made to manage traffic in the area for the safety of workers, road users and residents. Road users should expect delays and increased traffic on nearby main and side streets.</p>
	<p>Parking: Parking in the active work zone is not permitted due to space requirements for construction equipment and materials. If your parked vehicle affects the construction work, it will be re-located with no charge to the owner. If your vehicle is moved, please contact parking control for its location at 416-808-2222.</p> <p><i>In the event you receive a traffic ticket for on-street parking during this period of construction, please immediately contact the Field Ambassador listed on the next page so that your ticket can be cancelled.</i></p> <p>Please note that parking tickets cannot be cancelled if vehicles were parked in illegal parking spots such as in front of a fire hydrant or in no parking zones, or if they are submitted to the Field Ambassador later than three days after receipt.</p>
	<p>Garbage & Recycling: Please follow your normal routine. If required, the contractor will move bins to an appropriate location and return them. <i>Please ensure that you label your bins with your address.</i></p>



Restoration: The construction work area will be restored with sod and/or asphalt where required. Interlocking bricks, flagstone on a granular base, or other similar features that are removed from public and private property during construction will be replaced. Lawn seeding and/or laying of sod will be done as needed during ideal growing seasons only - in the spring (April to June) and fall (September to October). Permanent restoration of the curb and sidewalk will take place within 18 to 24 months.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have questions about the upcoming work, please contact us and quote **16TW-OS-27CWD**

Field Ambassador	647-923-3430, TorontoWMrehab@mmm.ca
TTY Hearing Impaired Service	416-338-0889 (7 Days a week, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, closed holidays)
General inquiries	311
Website	toronto.ca/improvements/ward43.htm

MAP OF WORK AREA



Thank you for your patience. Building a great city takes time. Better infrastructure for all of us is worth the wait.

Lead in Drinking Water

The City of Toronto is sending you two notices to tell you about construction the City will be doing near your home soon. The first one is called a "Pre-Construction Notice" and it is sent about 3 months before the work begins. The second one is called a "Construction Notice" and it is sent 1-4 weeks before the work begins. You should have one of these notices in your mailbox today.

The construction could involve work on your road, watermain or sewer. **It may also involve replacing the City-owned part of your water service pipe, which may contain lead.**

Lead can affect how the brain and nervous system grows, so this factsheet is very important to read if someone in your house is pregnant, if there are children under 6 years old, or if there is an infant drinking formula made from tap water.

Water Pipe Replacement



The underground pipe that brings water to your water meter (called the service pipe) is owned by you and by the City. The part that the City owns goes from the municipal watermain to your property line. The part that you own goes from your property line to your water meter.

During construction, if the City finds that the water pipe is made of lead, it will replace the City-owned part. To protect your health, **Toronto Public Health strongly recommends that you replace your part of the water pipe if it contains lead.** Find out how by reading the back of this Fact Sheet.

Lead, Drinking Water and Your Health

- If you live in a house built before the mid-1950s and the water service pipe has never been replaced, it is probably made of lead. If it is, then lead may be getting into your drinking water.
- Lead is most harmful to the growing brain and nervous system of a fetus, infant or child under 6 years old. If a young child has too much lead in their body, it can lead to a shortened attention span, and intellectual and behavioural problems.
- If you have a baby at home: Breast milk is the healthiest option for feeding your baby. If you are unable to breastfeed and are using formula, begin with **cold filtered** tap water, boil it and then let it cool. Use within 30 minutes. You can also consider using ready-to-feed formula.
- The best way to reduce lead in drinking water is to replace both parts of a lead water pipe.



How to prepare for lead water pipe replacement

Once construction begins, the contractor will be able to see the underground water pipe and will know for sure if the City-owned portion is made of lead and needs to be replaced. A City staff person or City-hired contractor will tell you in person or leave a note in your mailbox if they are replacing the service to your property. In the meantime, you can take steps to prepare for the possible replacement.

Step 1: Find out if your part of the water pipe is made of lead.

- If your house was built before the mid-1950s, then the water service pipe is probably made of lead, unless it was replaced at another time. You can find out how old your house is by asking the landlord or checking the ownership papers.
- If possible, look at the pipe that goes into your water meter. If it is grey, scratches easily and does not sound hollow when you tap it, it may be made of lead. To know for sure, ask a plumber or home inspector.

Step 2: Find a contractor to replace your part of the water pipe.

- Get at least three quotes from a licensed plumber to get the best price.
- If you received a "Construction Notice" in your mailbox today, this means that the City will be doing the work in 1-4 weeks and has hired its own contractor. You can ask them for a quote. Look for their name and phone number in the Notice. Sometimes, the City-hired contractor may not be able to do the work for you due to their schedule. This is why it is good for you to get quotes from other contractors before work starts.
- If you hire your own contractor, they must replace your part of the water pipe either before or after the City-hired contractor replaces the City-owned part. Private contractors cannot work at the site at the same time as the City-hired contractor. Be sure that your contractor understands this and can tell you the best way for coordinating the work to save you the most money.
- Replacing your part of the water pipe is estimated to cost \$2,000-\$3,000.

Step 3: Learn more about protecting your health after a lead water pipe is replaced

- After a lead water pipe is replaced, there may be a temporary increase of lead in your drinking water. The City will provide you with tips and a free water filter to help reduce the health impact from any temporary lead increase.

To learn more about lead pipe replacement and other ways that the City of Toronto is working to reduce lead in drinking water, visit toronto.ca/leadpipes or call 311.

May 3, 2017

EMERGENCY WORK
Military Trail Road Closure from Ellesmere Road to Highcastle Road for Emergency Road and Watermain Repair

Contract: 16TW-OS-27CWD
Start Date: Week of May 1, 2017
End Date: Fall 2017, until further notice
**Timeline is subject to change.*

In February, some residents received a Construction Notice regarding cleaning and relining of the watermain on Military Trail between East Highland Creek and Neilson Road.

Unrelated to the project, a section of the watermain (west of the original work location) broke, which caused significant damage to a section of road.

For this reason, the following will now occur:

- Cleaning and structural relining of the watermain on Military Trail has been extended from Ellesmere Road to Neilson Road.
- Military Trail will be closed in both directions between Ellesmere Road and Highcastle Road until the watermain has been relined and the road has been fixed. Park access between east of Highland Creek and Highcastle Road will open May 15. Although the watermain relining will be completed by fall of 2017, further notice will be provided at that time about the road closure and repair.

A map of the revised work area can be found on page 2 of this notice.

WORK DETAILS



Throughout the duration of the project, construction crews will:

- Excavate pits in the road to access the watermain
- Clean and structurally re-line the existing watermain
- Rebuild the damaged section of Military Trail
- Restore all work areas with asphalt, concrete or grass

Homes in the original work area may also be connected to a temporary water supply system. More information on this can be found in the original Construction Notice that was delivered in February. A copy can also be found online at www.toronto.ca/improvements.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

You may experience dust, noise and other inconveniences. The City will make efforts to reduce the impacts. We appreciate your patience.

	Work Hours: Work will take place from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday to Friday, with work after hours and on weekends as required.
	Road, Sidewalk and Driveway Access: <u>Section 1: Between Ellesmere Road and Highcastle Road</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Military Trail will be closed in both directions. Signage will be in place to help motorists detour around the construction area. During this closure, motorists that need to travel south to Ellesmere Road are advised to use alternate routes, such as Neilson Road.

- Military Trail will be opened from East of Highland Creek to Highcastle Road for park access by May 15.

- Military Trail will be open in both directions; however, there will be periods when the westbound lane is closed and traffic will need to share the remaining lane. The contractor will notify you of any temporary restrictions to your driveway access. If your property has two entrances, one entrance will be kept open at all times. There will also be sidewalk restrictions in this work zone.

Staff will be in place to manage traffic flow during these periods. Road users should expect delays.

LEGEND

- Original Work Area
- Emergency Repair Work Area

Section 2:
Currently closed.
Will be open May 15

Section 3:
Currently open.
Watermain relining will be completed by fall 2017

Section 1:
Closed until further notice.
Update will be provided fall 2017

Parking Lot

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have questions about the upcoming work, please contact us and quote **16TW-OS-27CWD**

Field Ambassador	647-923-3430, TorontoWMrehab@mmm.ca
TTY Hearing Impaired Service	416-338-0889 (7 Days/week, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, closed holidays)
General inquiries	311
Website	toronto.ca/improvements/ward43.htm

Thank you for your patience. Building a great city takes time. Better infrastructure for all of us is worth the wait.