
2025 CAPITAL BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

Update on Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation and Associated Projects

Background

At its January 17, 2025 meeting, Budget Committee requested the General Manager, Toronto Water, the General Manager, Transportation Services, the Chief Engineer and Executive Director, Engineering and Construction Services, and the Director, Strategic Capital Coordination Office, to provide a briefing note update on the Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation Project and associated construction projects in the Rockcliffe-Smythe area, including an overview of planned infrastructure improvements, funding, and construction timing.

Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation Project

The City of Toronto is moving forward with several infrastructure improvement projects aimed at reducing flooding in the Rockcliffe-Smythe area and as determined through the completed Rockcliffe Riverine Flood Mitigation Project (RFMP) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. These improvements will increase the capacity of local water ways and culverts, capturing, holding, and transporting more water away from homes and businesses.

Infrastructure improvements include the following and are shown in Attachment 1:

- Channel Widening and Modifications:
 - Black Creek channel widening and modifications between Jane Street and Alliance Avenue.
 - Lavender Creek channel modifications between Black Creek and upstream of Symes Road.
- Bridge Lengthening:
 - Replacement of the Scarlett Road, Jane Street, Rockcliffe Boulevard bridges and Symes Road culvert with structures of longer spans to increase the conveyance of water and enhance transportation options.
- Culvert Removals:
 - Removal of two driveways/culverts over Lavender Creek which connect to Symes Road.
- Floodwall Construction:
 - A new floodwall structure on the east side of Weston Road at Black Creek.

These infrastructure improvements aim to:

- Provide riverine flood protection for 195 homes from a 350-year storm event to reduce urban flooding.
- Offer a robust, low-maintenance solution which is resilient to more intense storms and climate change.
- Mitigate project impacts to the extent possible on the built and natural environments.

Associated Construction Projects

In addition to the planned RFMP infrastructure improvement projects, the City will be undertaking sewer system improvements to increase the overall capacity of the system:

- **Basement Flooding Protection Program Assignment 45-48**
 - This significant project involves sanitary and storm sewer upgrades recommended in Basement Flooding Study Areas 4 and 45 (see Attachment 2). Currently the Cost Per Benefiting Property (CPBP) meets the threshold (under \$68K per property), however cost estimates will be updated following preliminary design. Completion of Basement Flooding Protection Program Assignment 45-48 is dependent on the work being completed for RFMP.
- **Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer (BCSTS) Relief System**
 - The Black Creek STS project is an extensive and complex project that traverses across a large area in the City. The Black Creek STS services over 350,000 people and represents a sanitary drainage area of 5,500 hectares, the equivalent of 4,000 soccer fields.
 - At an estimated cost of more than \$1 billion, this integrated system of sanitary sewers and wet weather flow control upgrades includes a network of more than 20 kilometres of Trunk Sewers varying in size from 1.5 to up to 3 metres, flow diversion structures, a combined sewer overflow (CSO) storage tunnel and CSO storage tank and real time control infrastructure.
 - Once finished, these infrastructure upgrades will provide additional sanitary trunk sewer capacity to support population and employment growth beyond 2041. This project will provide capacity for additional population and job projections in the Downsview area.
 - Phase 1 includes the southern section of the Keele Relief Trunk Sewer, the Jane Relief Trunk Sewer, flow diversion structures, CSO storage tunnel, and real time monitoring and control systems.

Key Points

Construction Timelines

The implementation of the RFMP infrastructure improvement projects is being undertaken in three phases and is being coordinated with the associated basement flooding protection and long-term sanitary servicing projects, as outlined above. The current anticipated implementation timing is shown below. Timing is being monitored and will be updated as needed based on several influencing factors, including ongoing capital coordination efforts, necessary property acquisitions, sequencing of work, and resources.

- A Request for Proposal for RFMP Phase 1 was issued in Q2 2024 for the design of the Jane Street and Scarlett Road bridge replacements. The contract was awarded by Bid Award Panel at its meeting on July 31, 2024. Detailed design has commenced, along with coordination with utility companies for the protection or relocation of their assets.
- The Basement Flooding Protection Program Assignment 45-48, is currently in preliminary design, targeting a construction start in 2029.
- Phase 1 of the BCSTS project is in detailed and design and slated for construction through 2026-2031.

Phase	Project Component	Planned Construction Schedule
Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation Project		
1	Jane Street Bridge	2026 – 2029
1	Scarlett Road Bridge	2029 – 2030
2	Rockcliffe Boulevard Bridge	2029 – 2031
2	Weston Road Flood Protection Wall	2030 – 2031
2	Black Creek Channel Widening – Jane St to Alliance Ave	2029 – 2031
3	Widening the Lavender Creek culvert under Symes Road	2031 – 2033
3	Removal of two driveway culverts over Lavender Creek	2031 – 2033
3	Lavender Creek Widening Symes to Black Creek	2031 – 2033
Associated Construction Projects		
	Basement Flooding Protection Program, Project #45-48	2029 – 2033
	Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System – Phase 1	2026 – 2031
	Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System – Phase 2	2031 – 2035

Funding

The current estimated capital budget, including for property, for the RFMP infrastructure improvement projects and associated Toronto Water projects are identified below. The RFMP projects and Basement Flooding Assignment 45-48 was approved for federal funding from Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF), for a total federal contribution of \$148.4 million.

Total Gross Project Budget

Project	Total Gross Project Budget (\$ in millions)	Secured Federal Contribution (\$ in millions)
<i>Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation Project</i>		\$148.4
Bridge and Culvert Upgrades	\$97.1	
Channel Widening	\$110.5	
<i>Associated Projects</i>		
Basement Flooding Protection Assignment 45-48	\$223.3	
Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System	\$982.8	\$0.0
Total	\$1,413.7	\$148.4

- Gross Project Budget includes budgets set for the program within the period between 2024 to 2034.
- -Funding for the DMAF-related projects, including the federal DMAF - contribution, is included in the Staff Prepared 2025-2034 Capital Budget and Plan.
- The Gross Project Budget for the entire Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System exceeds \$1billion when considering project budget beyond the 10 Year Budget and Plan 2025 - 2034.
- Budgets are based on estimates known at the time of 2025-2034 capital budget submission. As planning and design of the program continues, costing will be further refined and submitted to Council as part of future budget submissions.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Rockcliffe Flood Mitigation Project Infrastructure Improvements

Attachment 2: Basement Flooding Protection Program Assignment 45-48 Scope Map

Attachment 3: Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System Alignment Map

Prepared by: Cassidy Ritz, Project Director, Strategic Capital Coordination Office, 416-397-4487, Cassidy.Ritz@toronto.ca

Corey Wells, Senior Project Manager, Transportation Services, Major Projects, 416-392-2196, corey.wells@toronto.ca

Katherine Crowther, Manager, Toronto Water, Capital Planning, 416-392-7695, katherine.crowther@toronto.ca

Further information: Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services, 416-392-8431, barbara.gray@toronto.ca

Lou Di Gironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water, 416-392-8200, lou.digironimo@toronto.ca

Jennifer Graham Harkness, Chief Engineer and Executive Director, Engineering & Construction Services, 416-392-8256, jennifer.grahamharkness@toronto.ca

Jacquelyn Hayward, Director, Transportation Services, Planning, Design and Management, 416-392-5348, jacquelyn.hayward@toronto.ca

Richard Noehammer, Director, Toronto Water, Capital Planning and Implementation, 416-397-7296, richard.noehammer@toronto.ca

Jodie Atkins, Director, Design & Construction Bridges and Expressways, Engineering & Construction Services, 416-392-9183, jodie.atkins@toronto.ca

Judy Tse, Director, Strategic Capital Coordination Office, 416-397-7675, judy.tse@toronto.ca

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