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Reply to: Tracy Manolakakis,
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City of Toronto
Phone: 416-392-2990
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January 15, 2019

Dear Resident:

At our last consultation event in May of last year, we had over 75 residents come out to review the designs for the reconstruction of Riverside Drive and many others contacted us to share their thoughts. Many residents we have spoken with have expressed an appreciation that the designs respect the character of the neighbourhood and while there was still some uncertainty about the introduction of the road safety measures, there was a desire to move forward. A report outlining the comments we received is available on our website.

As you are aware, the process of developing a final design for Riverside Drive has taken a great deal of time and involved a significant amount of community engagement and city resources.

We have reviewed the comments we've received and made a few final changes to address concerns about the intersection of Riverside Drive and Riverside Trail as well as adjustments to some of the parking laybys. At the intersection, Riverside Drive has been shifted slightly to the east to better align the proposed roadway within the existing road surface. Additionally, the stop sign locations on Riverside Drive have been slightly pushed back from the intersection for both the north and south legs; this will increase the area of the raised intersection which, in turn, will increase its visibility to motorists. A copy of the updated drawings can be found at toronto.ca/riverside.

The City's key objective is to ensure that the road is safe and accessible for all road users – pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Reconstruction projects, such as this, provide the City an opportunity to invest in safety measures that can save lives and reduce serious injuries, which is a focus of our Vision Zero Road Safety Plan.

Our next step is to move forward with hiring a contractor to perform the work. The City will be issuing a tender before the end of the month to hire a contractor. The work is expected to start in the spring of 2019. The current construction work on the retaining wall at the south end is expected to be complete by February 2019. Before the work begins on the next phase, the City will notify you with further details.

We believe that the final design addresses the balance of community concerns while respecting the City's own requirements in the design of any roadway.

Sincerely,

Tracy Manolakakis
Manager, Public Consultation
City of Toronto