Yonge Street North Planning Study

Guy Matthew - Senior Planner, Community Planning Rong Yu - Senior Planner, Urban Design Victoria Fusz - Planner, Community Planning





Presentation Outline



- Why Study Yonge Street North?
- What's Already Happened?
- Study Boundary
- Official Plan Maps
- Transit Routes
- Existing Physical Context & Public Realm
- Study Elements & Draft Secondary Plan Boundary
- Next Steps





Why Study Yonge Street North?



- Infrastructure investment and development pressures:
 - •TTC's Line 1 subway extension to York Region
 - Environmental Assessment (EA) completed
- •Yonge Street North Planning Study will:
 - Develop a long-term vision for the area
 - •Manage and guide the expected growth through the development of a Secondary Plan







What's Already Happened?



2011

2012

2013

2014

- Study Initiation
- Community Meeting #1
- Community Meeting #2
- Land Use Options & Transportation
 Alternatives
- Evaluation/Review

- Community Meeting #3
- Draft "Preferred Options"
- Staff Report to City Council

- Community Meeting #4
- Draft Policies issued for community consultation





Study Boundary

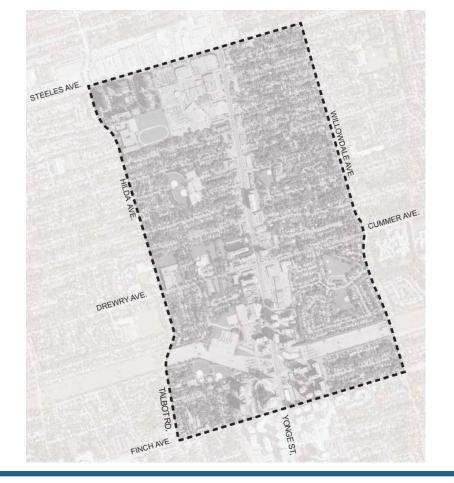


North: Steeles Avenue

South: Finch Avenue

East: Willowdale Avenue

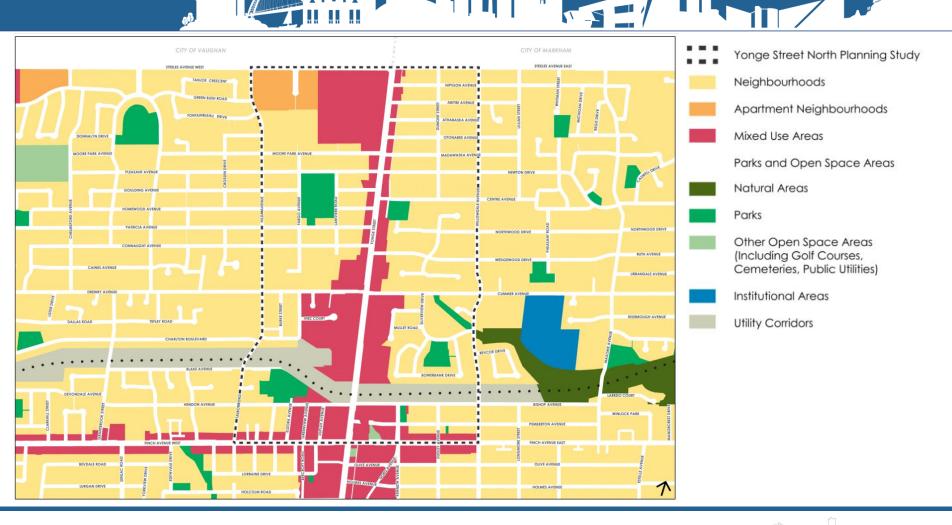
West: Hilda Avenue/Talbot Road





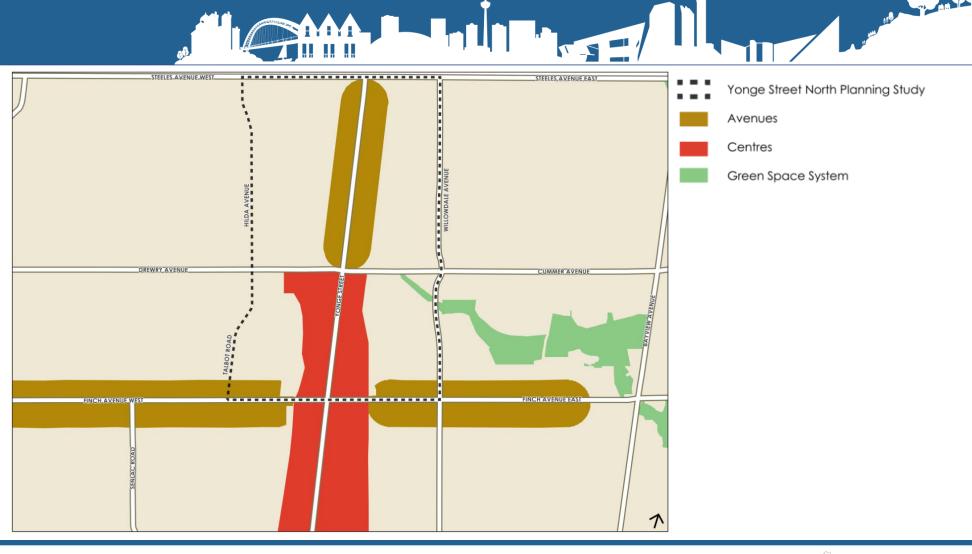


Official Plan: Land Use Map





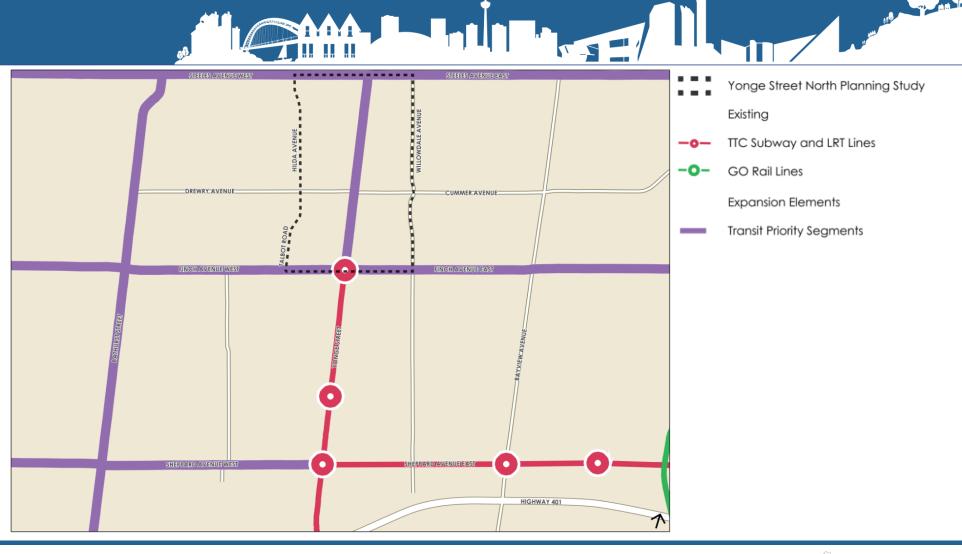
Official Plan: Urban Structure







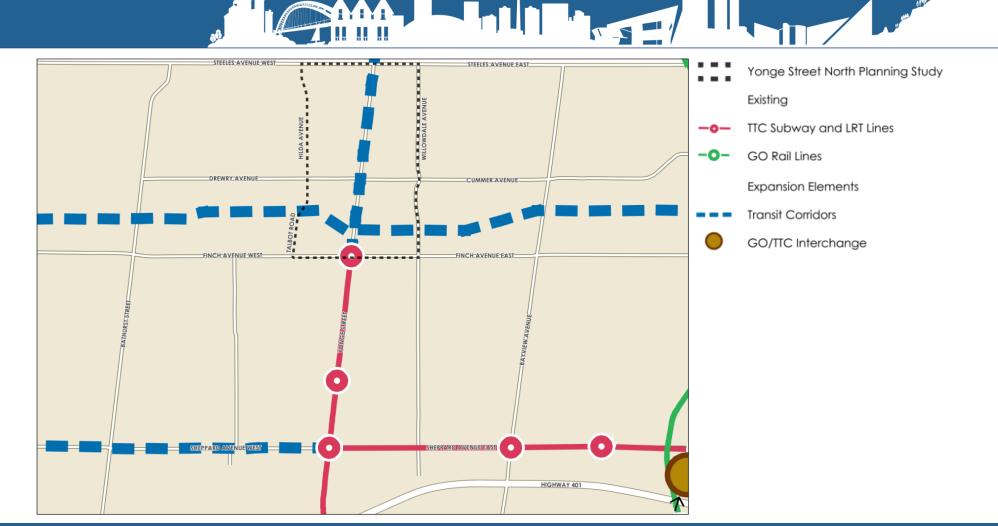
Official Plan: Surface Transit Priority Network







Official Plan: High Order Transit Corridors







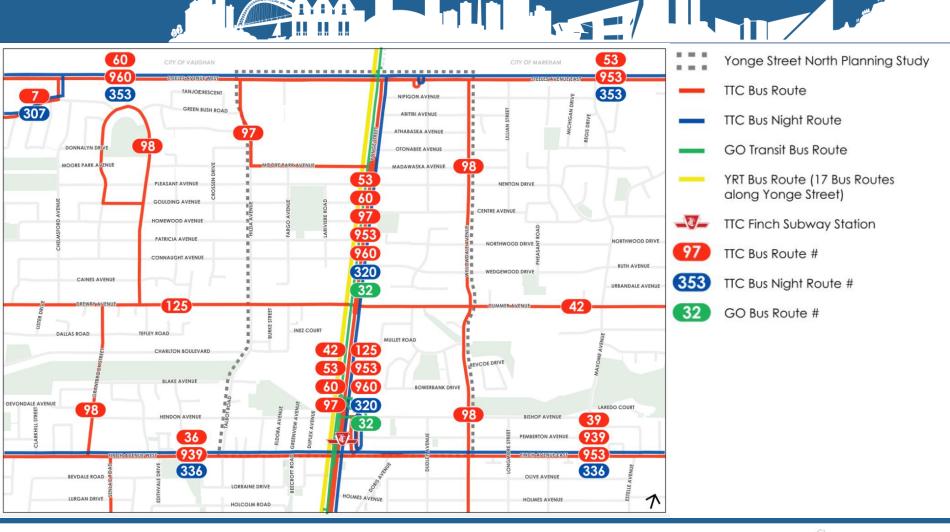
Official Plan: Right-of-Way Widths Associated with Existing Major Streets







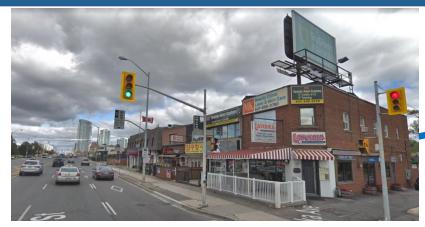
Existing Transit Routes







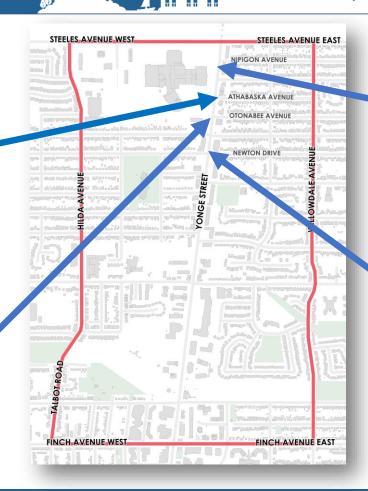
Existing Context – Yonge Street Corridor



Yonge Street and Athabaska Avenue, looking north



Yonge Street and Otonabee Avenue, looking north





Yonge Street and Nipigon Avenue, looking north



Yonge Street and Newton Drive, looking north

Source: Google Street View





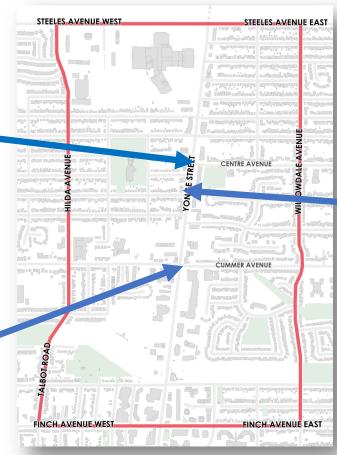
Existing Context – Yonge Street Corridor



Yonge Street and Centre Avenue, looking south



Yonge Street and Cummer Avenue, looking north





Yonge Street, looking north

Source: Google Street View





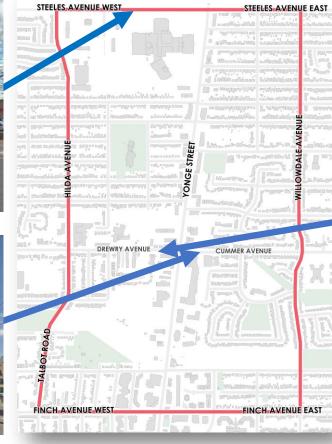
Existing Context – Steeles Ave & Cummer/Drewry Ave



Steeles Avenue West



Cummer Avenue, looking east





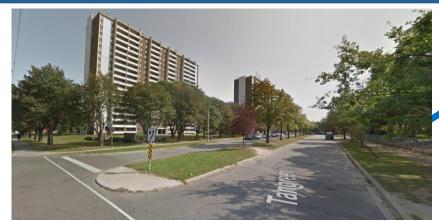
Drewry Avenue, looking west

Source: Google Street View





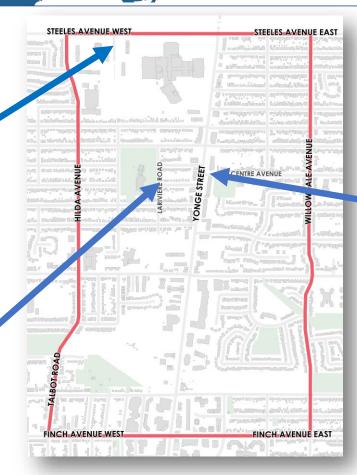
Existing Context – Neighbourhoods



Apartment Neighbourhoods



Lariviere Road, looking south





Centre Street, looking east







North York Centre Pub ic Realm – Hullmark Centre

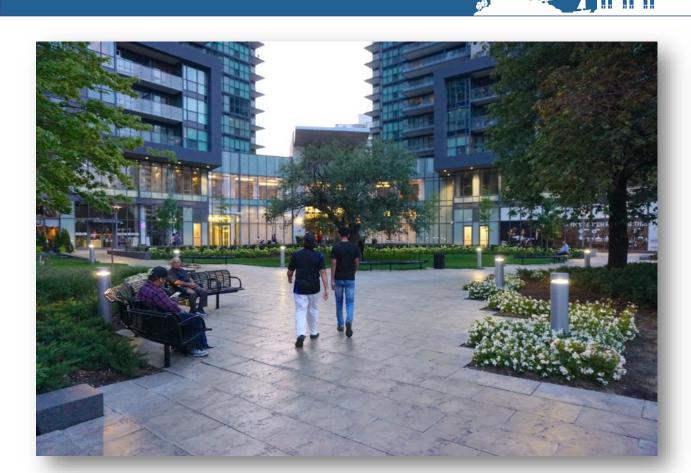


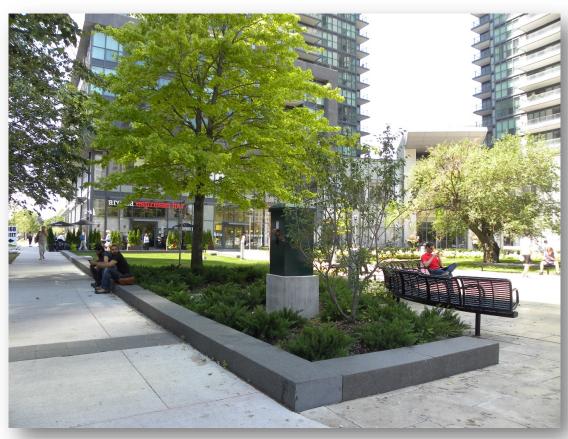






North York Centre Public Realm – Gibson Square









North York Centre Built Form – Base & Tower











Newtonbrook Plaza M2M- Yonge & Cummer















Study Elements



- Built Form: building type, transition, relationship to abutting neighbourhood
- Transportation: pedestrian, cycling and transit network and facilities
- Conceptual parks and open spaces
- Community services and facilities
- Services and infrastructure



Existing land uses in the study area





Draft Secondary Plan Boundary

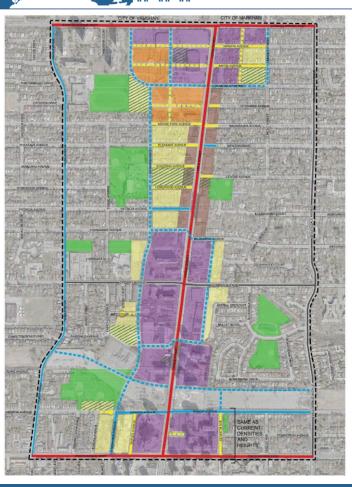








Preferred Urban Structure- Nodes & Wider Avenues



Proposed Development

	Max FSI	Max Heigh
Transition Area	1.5 -2	4
Node	5	40
Node Transition	3	6
Yonge St From	ntage 3	11
Avenue	4	11

Transportation

- Existing Local Road
- Proposed Local Road
- Existing Collector Road
- Proposed Collector Road
- Existing Minor Arterial Road
- Existing Major Arterial Road

Open Space System

- Existing Public Parks/Open Space School Yards/Walkways
- Proposed Parks





Nodes & Wider Avenues 3D Massing Model







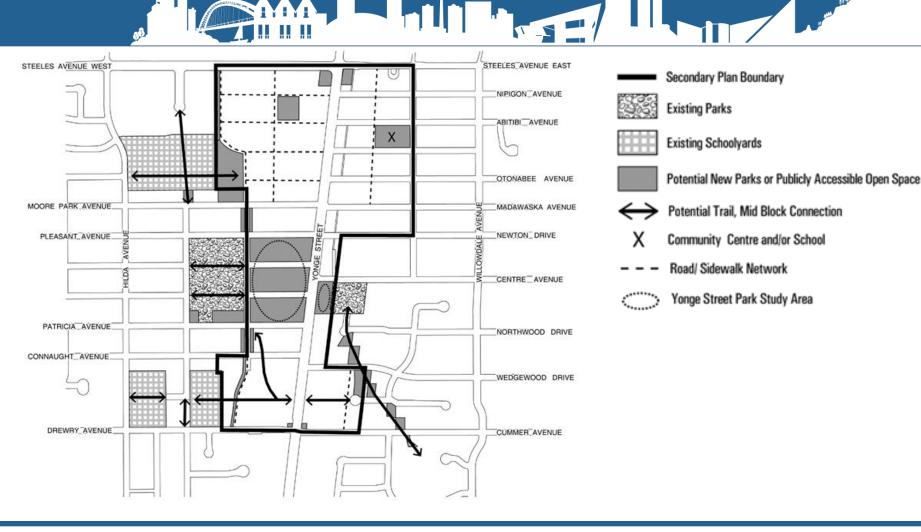
View from Finch Avenue Looking North







Draft Conceptual Parks & Open Space Plan







Feedback from DRP-June 19, 2012



- Develop a comprehensive strategy, targeting LEED-ND or equal
- Develop a strategy sensitive to differences in context between neighbourhoods east and west of Yonge St
- Develop a strong connectivity between Yonge St and adjacent neighbourhoods, with urban scale streets and blocks
- Create a main street character along Yonge St, with critical mass of commercial/retail at key nodes along street interspersed with a network of open spaces
- Create pedestrian-scaled, high quality public realm, including a focus on Yonge St to counterbalance street width
- Develop a network of well landscaped sidewalks and bike lanes
- Shape and position built form along Yonge St to vary width of street's spatial volume
- Make high quality landscaping a priority, provide consistent tree planting to define the street
- Examine opportunities to introduce laneways











Community Consultation Feedback



Massing	Streetscaping	Parks	Community Services & Facilities	Secondary Plan Boundaries	Transportation
• Attendees identified various massing options including: squash and spread, nodes at the future subway stations, and mid-rise buildings along Yonge Street which transition to the Neighbourhoods	 Attendees indicated that they would like to see public squares like Olive Square, Gibson Square, and Hullmark Centre Attendees would like to see increased sidewalk widths, bike lanes, weather protection, retail uses at-grade, patio and café space, midblock connections, pedestrian scale-lighting, and seating 	 Attendees want to see new parks as well as improvements to existing parks Improvements include: increased seating, lighting, sports fields, connections to Yonge St, and washroom facilities The northeast quadrant of the study boundary was identified as the area in the most need of park space 	 Attendees reported that existing facilities are well used Would like to see more facilities and programming geared to toddlers and seniors Would like to see expanded library services, community theater space, and meeting space 	 Attendees identified both preference for the boundaries to remain and to be expanded Willowdale Ave was identified as a revised eastern boundary Attendees also identified that the service road should determine the Secondary Plan boundary 	 Attendees identified that any transportation improvements should be coordinated as part of ReImagine Yonge Attendees identified the following as possible transportation improvements: improved TTC service, service road extension, bike lanes, increased traffic signals, improved traffic signal timing, and pedestrian oriented streets





Next Steps



Summer 2019

- Review comments from Community Council Meeting #5 and existing work
- Update existing transportation and infrastructure capacity information
- Review comments from Design Review Panel #2

Fall 2019

• Prepare/update existing vision and consult with the community

Winter 2019/2020

- Draft Secondary Plan policies
- Present draft Secondary Plan policies to the community and Design Review Panel
- Report to City Council with final Secondary Plan policies





Questions for the Panel



- 1. The consultants proposed tall buildings in the nodes around the future subway stations with mid-rise buildings along Yonge Street and transition areas surrounding the nodes. Are these the appropriate building typologies? Are there other characteristics and particular issues along this stretch of the Yonge Street Corridor that the study should consider?
- 2. Are the draft Secondary Plan boundaries appropriate or should other areas be included?
- 3. The consultant proposed a network of parks and open spaces. Is the network appropriate? If so, are there things that can be done to compliment it?



