



Cycling Connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road

Public Consultation Report

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Executive Summary

Public Consultation for the proposed cycling connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road took place from November 1 to November 28, 2019. This included notice distribution, public drop-in event, a project website, and targeted emails to the project stakeholder list. Over 1500 notices were distributed throughout the study area and 13 people signed in at the November 14 public drop-in event.

A range of responses were received with most feedback in support of the cycling connections in general with strong support for parking Option 1.

Introduction

Currently there are no cycling facilities connecting the cycling route on Dewson Street west of Ossington Avenue with the bikeways on Shaw Street & Harbord Street. More than 3000 people cycle on Shaw Street and 3600 on Harbord Street every day. This project proposes cycling connections on Roxton Road and Dewson Street to connect with the existing bikeway on Dewson Street, the existing bike lanes on Harbord Street and the existing contraflow bike lane on Shaw Street.

The goals of the project are to:

- Improve safety for people walking, cycling and driving
- Connect gaps in the cycling network
- Maintain local access for people driving
- Minimize impact to on-street parking

Overview of Communication Activities

The public communications for this project included the following:

- 1560 notices were delivered by Canada Post to the area bounded by Dupont Street to the north, Clinton Street to the east, College Street to the south and Ossington Avenue to the west
- 13 participants signed-in at the November 14 , 2019 public drop-in event (staff from Transportation Services attended the public event and answered questions from attendees)
- 64 comments forms were received
- 4 emails were received (inquiring on topics such as parking enforcement, parking availability and snow removal) and responded to
- engagement with Central Toronto Academy

The webpage [Cycling Connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road](#) was posted live on November 1 and included links to the presentation boards and the online feedback form.

Feedback Summary

Below is a summary of the feedback heard through all communication channels. Participants were self-selecting and not a representative sample of the affected community.

Preferred Parking Option

Residents were asked to choose one of two options having to do with parking replacement.

Option 1 (City's preferred)

- Move parking from west side to east side of Roxton Road between Dewson Streets – one parking space lost
- Remove parking on the north side of Dewson Street (between Roxton Road and Shaw Street) – 14 parking spaces lost
- 15 spaces lost overall

Option 2

- Same as Option 1 but adds 10 parking spaces on the north side of Dewson Street (between Shaw Street and Crawford Street)
- Overall reduction of five spaces
- Dewson Street from Shaw Street to Crawford Street becomes one-way eastbound

Parking Option 1 was preferred by 61% of respondents and Option 2 by 39%.

Residents were also asked if they supported a reduction in parking to provide better cycling connections. Many residents were in favour of a reduction in parking. Common points raised included:

- Need to make more space for transportation options besides cars
- Reserving road space for the storage of vehicles is not the best use
- Safe cycling connections trump the need to store a car on the public street
- Bikes are more space efficient
- Support for removing parking but only if all day parking is by permit only

Comments by Theme

The following are topics that were raised at least once in the public feedback. Comments are summarized and paraphrased for clarity. Statements in comments are not necessarily accurate or agreed by the City of Toronto.

Bike lanes and cyclists

- Great to see these connections being made
- We need more cycling connectivity across the City
- This will make cycling safer
- Cyclists ignore the rules of the road
- Not in favour of *sharrows* on any street

Requests – in scope

- The cycling connections should be physically separated
- *Sharrows* across Ossington at Dewson to guide cyclists through off-set intersection
- Put a bike lane on Ossington
- Make Dewson from Roxton to Shaw a 2-way street

Requests – out of scope

- Create a north/south cycling route west of Ossington
- Install contra-flow bike lanes on every feeder street to Harbord
- Physically protect the Harbord bike lanes
- Investigate cycling safety improvements at the Dufferin-Lindsay intersection
- We need more major cycling infrastructure across the City of Toronto
- We need bike lanes on every second street
- Fix the bike activation on the north side of Dewson, east side of Ossington

Parking

- Not enough parking in the neighbourhood
- Parking on Dewson between Roxton is not used overnight but is full from 8:30am because of teachers
- Private vehicles do not belong on the public roadway
- Street parking is under subscribed and this neighbourhood has easy access to world class transit and cycling options
- Cyclists and pedestrian safety is more important than providing parking
- Narrowing the road with parked cars slows down traffic, which is a feature that should be preserved
- Most residents in this area have laneway parking
- The elimination of 15 parking spaces will cause drivers to circle the streets looking for a place to park

Requests – in scope

- Parking should be restricted to those with permits
- Reduce the amount of parking on these streets

Other requests – out of scope

- Roxton from College to Dewson should be 24 hr permit parking
- Add traffic calming measures to these streets such as speed humps
- Fix the potholes and uneven asphalt
- Install traffic calming on Ossington between Bloor and College

Respondents

Feedback from participants reported that they travel on Dewson Street/Roxton Road with the second most number of respondent's reporting that they live along Dewson Street/Roxton Road. In terms of travel choice, the majority of respondents bike or walk on Dewson Street/Roxton Road.

Next Steps

In March, Transportation Services will bring a report on this project to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. If Council approves the project, it will be installed later in 2020.

Appendix A: Notice of Public Drop-In Event



Public Drop-In Event

Cycling Connections on Dewson Street & Roxton Road

The City of Toronto is proposing new bikeways on Dewson Street and Roxton Road to connect existing cycling routes on Dewson Street, Harbord Street and Shaw Street. The proposed cycling connections will require changes to parking on Roxton Road and Dewson Street.

Drop in to learn more about the proposed cycling connections, view project information panels, give your feedback, and speak one-on-one with the project team.

Date: Thursday, November 14, 2019

Time: drop in any time from 6 to 8 p.m.

Place: College/Shaw Public Library, Meeting Room, 766 College Street



This venue is wheelchair accessible.



Can't attend? View materials online at toronto.ca/dewson and complete the online survey (survey closes November 28th, 2019).

Proposed cycling connections on:

- Roxton Road from Dewson Street to Harbord Street
- Dewson Street from Ossington Avenue to Roxton Road and to Shaw Street
- Ossington Avenue from Harbord Street to Dewson Street



Parking options to accommodate the cycling routes

Option 1 – Preferred

- Move parking from west side to east side of Roxton Road between Dewson Streets – one (1) parking space lost
- Remove parking on the north side of Dewson Street (between Roxton Road and Shaw Street) –14 parking spaces lost
- 15 spaces lost overall

Why option 1 is preferred

- Provides desired passable roadway space for emergency services
- Permit parking and survey data show that approximately 20-30% on-street parking is available on Dewson Street, Roxton Road, and in Permit Parking Area 4C



Option 2 – Alternative

- Same as option 1 but adds 10 parking spaces on the north side Dewson Street (between Shaw Street and Crawford Street)
- Overall reduction of five (5) spaces
- Dewson Street from Shaw Street to Crawford Street becomes one-way eastbound

Why option 2 is not preferred

- Does not provide desired passable roadway space for emergency services
- Changes Dewson Street (from Shaw to Crawford) to a one-way eastbound direction



Para obter assistência em português, é favor ligar 311.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have questions, please contact us.

Public Consultation Unit	Elysia Leung · 416-392-6505 · elysia.leung@toronto.ca
TTY Hearing Impaired Service	416-338-0TTY (0889) (7 Days a week, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, closed holidays)

www.toronto.ca/dewson

Appendix B: Feedback Form



Feedback Form

Cycling Connections on Dewson Street & Roxton Road November 14th, 2019

Thank you for attending and participating in this Public Drop-In Event. Public consultation is an important part of this project. Please complete this feedback form so we can learn more about your thoughts and opinions regarding cycling connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road. All comments will be considered.

Please submit your comments today or by November 28th, 2019. Today's materials are also available on www.toronto.ca/dewson

1 What are your thoughts about the proposed cycling connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road?

2 Please put a check mark next to your preferred parking option.

- Option 1
- Option 2

Please explain why this is your preferred parking option.

3 In the context of this project, do you support a reduction in parking to provide better cycling connections? Please explain why or why not.

4 Is there anything else you want to tell us about this project?

toronto.ca/dewson

About You

What are the first three digits in your postal code? _____

Please describe your perspective. (Select all that apply)

- I live along Dewson Street/Roxton Road
- I work along Dewson Street/Roxton Road
- I shop/dine along Dewson Street/Roxton Road
- I travel on Dewson Street/Roxton Road
- I represent a business along Dewson Street/Roxton Road
- Other: _____

How do you typically travel on/to Dewson Street/Roxton Road? (Select all that apply)

- Walk
- Bike
- Drive
- TTC
- Taxi / rideshare
- Auto passenger
- Other: _____

About this Event

Please help us to improve by letting us know your thoughts about the event.

	Disagree	Neutral	Agree
The information presented was clear and easy to understand	1	2	3
Staff were able to answer my questions or offered follow up	1	2	3
There was an opportunity to share my comments & opinions	1	2	3

Contact

Thank you for your comments!

*Please return this feedback form to the registration desk before you leave, or submit to the City by **November 28, 2019.***

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The City respects your privacy – your personal information will not be shared without your permission. The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, s. 136(c), and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER M.56. Your personal information is being collected in order to respond to your inquiry and future consultation opportunities regarding the Cycling Connections on Dewson Street and Roxton Road. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Public Consultation Unit, Metro Hall - 55 John St., Toronto, Ontario, M5V 3C6, or call 416-392-2990.