

# Appendix E – yongeTOmorrow Natural Heritage Assessment Report

---



## YONGE TOMORROW PROJECT CITY OF TORONTO SCHEDULE "C" MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY

prepared for:



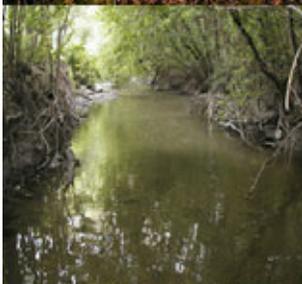
**steer**



prepared by:



AUGUST 2020



# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT REPORT

**YONGE TOMORROW PROJECT  
CITY OF TORONTO  
GROUP "C" MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT STUDY**

*prepared by:*



---

**GRANT N. KAUFFMAN, M.E.S.  
VICE PRESIDENT, ONTARIO REGION**

**August 2020  
LGL Project # TA8871**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>STUDY AREA.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>DATA COLLECTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>EXISTING CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1	Physiography and Soils .....	4
4.2	Aquatic Habitat .....	4
4.3	Terrestrial Habitat.....	4
4.4	Designated Natural Areas .....	4
<b>5.0</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1	College Street to Gerrard Street.....	7
5.2	Gerrard Street to Edward Street.....	7
5.2.1	Gerrard Street to Walton Street.....	7
5.2.2	Walton Street to Elm Street.....	7
5.2.3	Elm Street to Edward Street.....	7
5.3	Edward Street to Dundas Square.....	10
5.4	Dundas Square to Shuter Street .....	10
5.5	Shuter Street to Queen Street.....	10
<b>6.0</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION .....</b>	<b>11</b>
6.1	Soils .....	11
6.2	Fish and Fish Habitat .....	12
6.3	Vegetation and Vegetation Communities .....	12
6.4	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat.....	12
6.5	Designated Natural Areas .....	13
<b>7.0</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>14</b>

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Study Area. ....	2
Figure 2: Existing Natural Heritage Features .....	5
Figure 3. Yonge Street Design Concept.....	8
Figure 4. Yonge Street Public Realm Plan. ....	9

## APPENDICES

Appendix A. Species Rank Definitions and Acronyms	
---	--

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Yonge Street is Toronto’s “main street.” It is a vibrant area where thousands of people visit, live, work, play and learn. In the heart of Yonge Street, between Queen Street and College/Carlton Street, the sidewalks are filled with the highest pedestrian volumes in Canada, at all hours of the day and throughout all seasons of the year. The Yonge TOmorrow study will develop and review design options intended to improve streetscaping and increase pedestrian space, along with other possibilities to improve the way people move through and enjoy Yonge Street between Queen Street and College/Carlton Street. This study is being carried out as a Schedule ‘C’ Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA). A Phase 2 EA study will look at potential changes to Yonge Street north of College/Carlton Street to Davenport Road.

LGL Limited was retained by Steer (formerly Steer Davies Gleave) to conduct a natural heritage investigation in support of the Yonge TOmorrow Project. The natural heritage investigation included collection and review of background information, determination of significance of natural heritage features and identified opportunities to integrate natural heritage features found along the corridor into streetscape design. The following report summarizes the results of the natural heritage investigation.

## 2.0 STUDY AREA

The study area for the Yonge TOMorrow Project is the Yonge Street corridor from University Avenue/Queen's Park Circle/Avenue Road in the west, Roxborough Street in the north, Mount Pleasant Road/Jarvis Street in the east and King Street in the south. The study area is presented in Figure 1.



FIGURE 1. STUDY AREA.

### **3.0 DATA COLLECTION**

LGL Limited collected background information from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), City of Toronto and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). Previous natural heritage investigations carried out along Yonge Street, including numerous site plan applications, were also reviewed. Secondary source information was used to conduct the natural heritage investigation within the broader study area.

A field investigation was performed along Yonge Street to inventory trees in accordance with the requirements of the City of Toronto Tree Protection Bylaw and/or the Ravine and Natural Feature Protection Bylaw, whichever applied. Data was collected regarding tree location, tree identification #, species (including scientific name), street tree address (if applicable), size (DBH), health (diseases, defects, infestations, etc.), structural integrity, drip line, and recommended tree protection zone. Tree locations were recorded by differential GPS with accuracy to +/- 3 m and street addresses were recorded for street amenity trees. Stem counts in Ravine and Natural Features Protection By-law areas were completed as representative subplots. Tree species at risk and trees of significance (native species of large size, significant amenity trees in parks or streetscapes, specialized function, heritage trees, etc.) were also identified.

## **4.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The following section provides a description of the natural heritage features located within the study area.

### **4.1 Physiography and Soils**

The study area is located within the South Slope and Lake Iroquois Sand Plain physiographic regions (Chapman and Putnam 1984; TRCA 2009). The South Slope is located south of approximately Bloor Street, while the Lake Iroquois Sand Plain is located north of approximately Bloor Street.

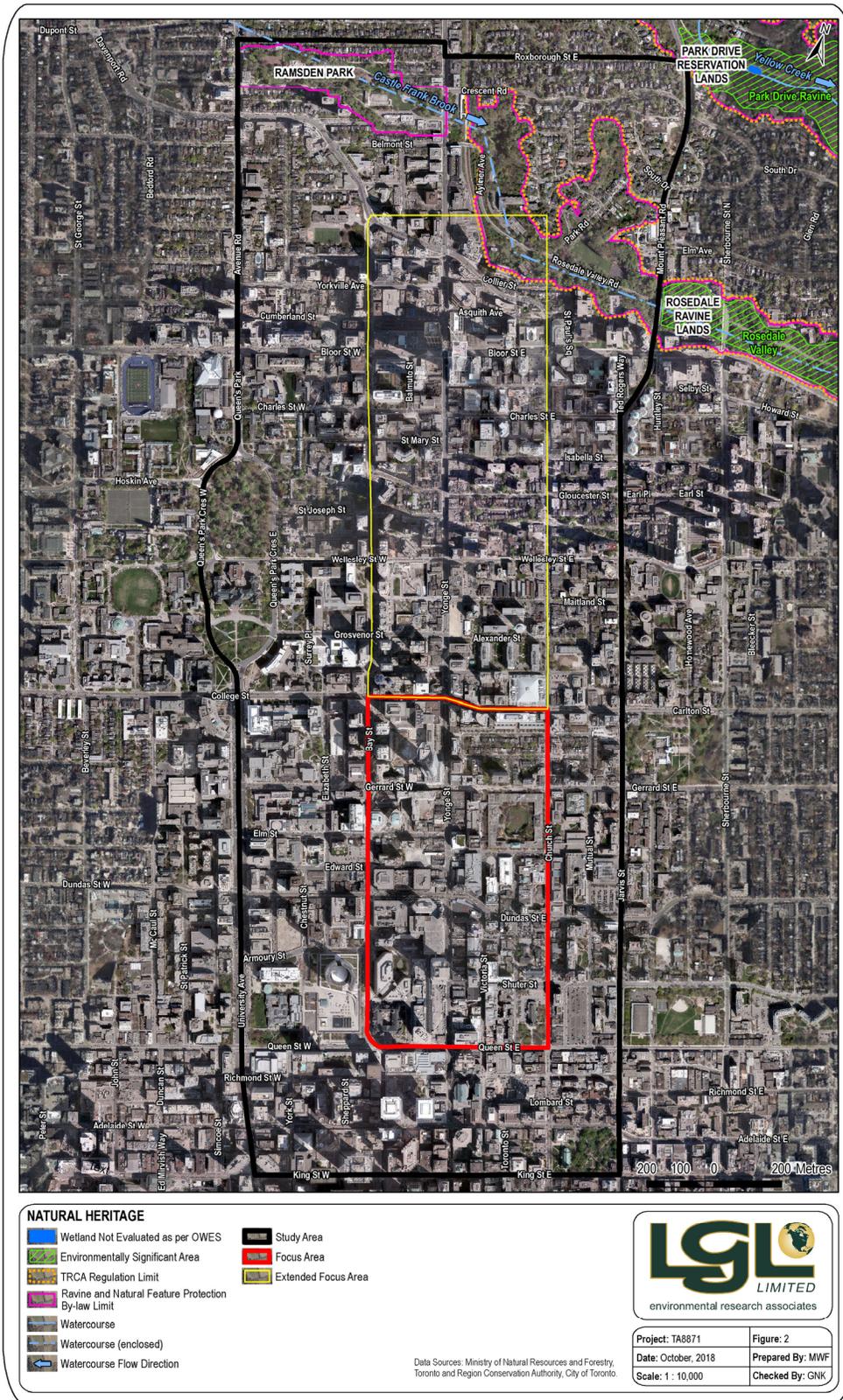
The South Slope is a drumlinized area, consisting of areas of thin (<1 m thick) aeolian sand deposits underlain by glacial deposits, mainly till. The slope is characterized by southerly trending drainage with sharply incised valleys and numerous gullies that have been cut by rapid streams (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The Lake Iroquois Sand Plain is the lowland just north of Lake Ontario that was inundated by a body of water (Lake Iroquois) after the glacier receded from the area. The Iroquois Plain extends from Niagara River in the west, to the Trent River in the east and corresponds approximately with the 135 m asl contour. This area contains sand, silt and clay deposits of the Glacial Lake Iroquois (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The soils in the study area are highly disturbed given the urban development that has occurred in the City of Toronto. Originally, the soils south of Dundas Street comprised older tills of silty clay to silt till; the soils between Dundas Street and Bloor Street comprised deeper water deposits of silt and clay, and the soils north of Bloor Street comprised shallow water deposits of sand and silty sand.

### **4.2 Aquatic Habitat**

The study area is located within the Lower Don River subwatershed, which is regulated by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). One tributary of the Lower Don River, Castle Frank Brook, flows underground through a pipe along Rosedale Road. Yellow Creek, another tributary of the Lower Don River, is located beyond the study area. The location of Castle Frank Brook and Yellow Creek are presented in Figure 2.



**FIGURE 2. EXISTING NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES.**

### **4.3 Terrestrial Habitat**

The study area lies within the Lake Erie - Lake Ontario ecoregion (Ecoregion 7E) of the Mixedwood Plains ecozone. The study area is heavily urbanized with the only natural heritage feature associated with Ramsden Park and the Rosedale Ravine Lands. These natural heritage features are shown in Figure 2.

### **4.4 Designated Natural Areas**

Designated natural areas include areas identified for protection by the MNRF, TRCA and upper and lower tier municipalities. There are no Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) or Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) located in the study area. Two Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs), Rosedale Valley ESA and Park Drive Ravine ESA, are located beyond the study area as shown in Figure 2.

The City of Toronto Official Plan Land Use Plan (Map 2) identifies “Natural Areas” located along the Rosedale Ravine Lands east of Avenue Road and the Park Drive Reservation Lands located beyond the study area. The Natural Heritage Overlay (Map 9) identifies the Rosedale Ravine east of Yonge Street as a component of the City of Toronto Natural Heritage System. The Park Drive Reservation Lands located beyond the study area, are also identified as a component of the City of Toronto Natural Heritage System. The policy for these “natural areas” is to maintain them primarily in a natural state, while allowing for compatible uses and conservation projects.

The City of Toronto Ravine and Natural Feature Protection bylaw applies to several natural areas including: the Ramsden Park/Rosedale Ravine Lands located east of Avenue Road; and, the Park Drive Reservation Lands located beyond the study area. These same areas, with the exception of Ramsden Park, are also regulated by TRCA under Ontario Regulation 166/06, Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses.

The Don River, located beyond the study area, is also designated as an Urban River Valley in the Greenbelt Plan.

## **5.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The technically preferred design concept for Yonge Street is Alternative 4c. This design concept strikes a balance between providing pedestrian circulation space and allowing for vehicle operations. Key elements of the design concept are described below and a schematic of the design concept is presented in Figure 3. The public realm plan for Yonge Street is presented in Figure 4.

### **5.1 College Street to Gerrard Street**

Yonge Street from College to Gerrard Street will be a traffic calmed, two-way local access road with a 30 km/h speed limit. Cycling facilities and loading zones will be added and wide sidewalks will be provided for landscaping, patios and street retail in flexible, strategic locations. A pedestrian crossing would be included for people to access College Park from the McGill Street and Granby Street areas.

### **5.2 Gerrard Street to Edward Street**

Yonge Street from Gerrard Street to Edward Street will be fully pedestrianized during the day, with some short sections that allow for limited essential local access. Overnight, the pedestrianized section would be opened up to allow the TTC night bus to operate.

#### **5.2.1 Gerrard Street to Walton Street**

From Gerrard Street to Walton Street, Yonge Street will support northbound traffic to service the buildings located on Walton Street. Traffic lanes are reduced to allow for widened sidewalks to support pedestrian movement.

#### **5.2.2 Walton Street to Elm Street**

From Walton Street to Elm Street, Yonge Street will be a pedestrian priority zone to accommodate high pedestrian volumes. Vehicle access during the day will be prohibited by the use of gates and cyclists will be permitted to travel through this area at reduced speed.

#### **5.2.3 Elm Street to Edward Street**

From Elm Street to Edward Street, Yonge Street will allow for local vehicle access to circulate in a loop-style movement through Yonge Street to allow for essential servicing of the businesses that do not have rear access. Like other portions of the street, the sidewalks will be widened to support comfortable pedestrian movement and also provide for landscaping, patios and street retail in flexible, strategic locations. Vehicles will be expected to share the road with cyclists.

# Recommended Design Concept

## 4c – Pedestrian Priority Zones with One-Way Driving Access and Cycle Tracks

### Overview

The priorities for Yonge Street vary based on the adjacent properties and how people use the street to access them. This map shows how different operations have been applied by block during the day (6 a.m. to 1 a.m.) to address these different needs.

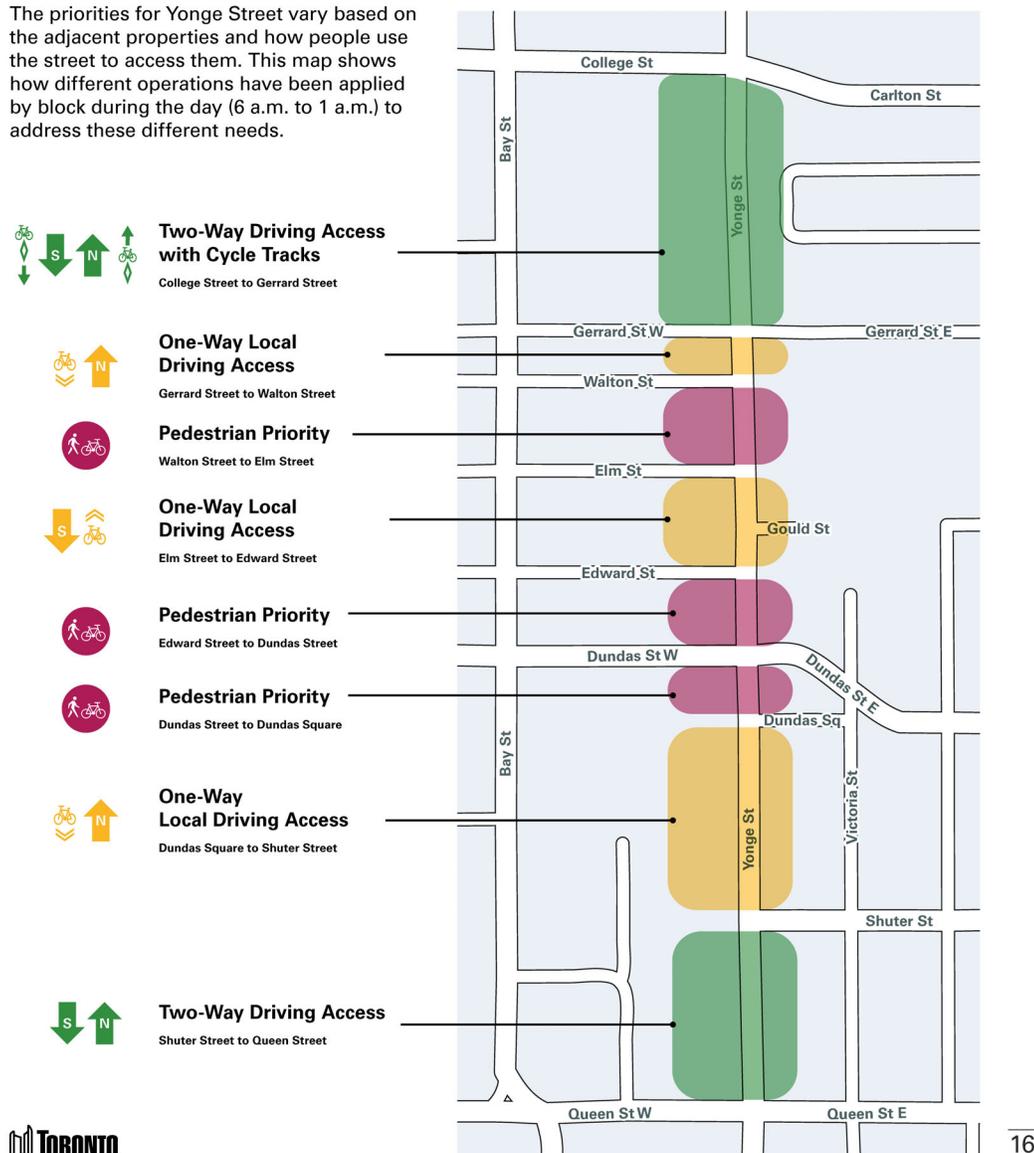
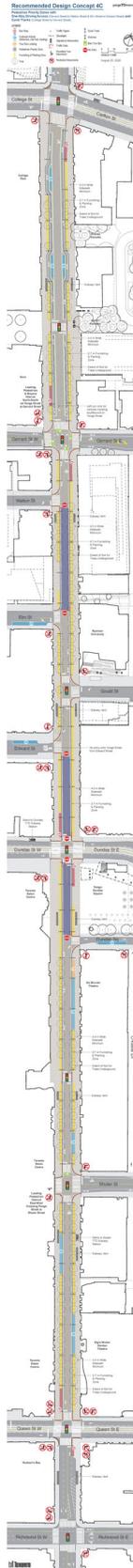


FIGURE 3. YONGE STREET DESIGN CONCEPT.



**FIGURE 4. YONGE STREET PUBLIC REALM PLAN.**

### **5.3 Edward Street to Dundas Square**

Yonge Street from Edward Street to Dundas Square will be a pedestrian priority zone with the street closed off to vehicles reserving the space for pedestrians to support the high volumes of foot traffic in this area. Gates will be installed to prohibit through traffic. Cyclists are permitted to travel through pedestrian priority zones at reduced speeds for safe interaction with pedestrians. Overnight the pedestrianized sections will be opened up to allow the TTC night bus to operate.

At Dundas Square, the existing one-way traffic arrangement would be retained for eastbound movements to allow for servicing and access to the Dundas Square parking garage. The existing commercial loading zone would be retained.

### **5.4 Dundas Square to Shuter Street**

Yonge Street from Dundas Square to Shuter Street will have the sidewalks widened to improve the pedestrian experience and calm traffic. One lane of traffic will be permitted northbound to allow for local access and a north-bound lay-by will be provided for ride hail activities and deliveries. Like other portions of the street, the sidewalks will be widened to support comfortable pedestrian movement and also provide for landscaping, patios and street retail in flexible, strategic locations. Northbound vehicles will be expected to share the road with cyclists whilst the southbound lane is available solely for cyclists.

The existing pedestrian crossing at the Eaton Centre entrance will be retained.

### **5.5 Shuter Street to Queen Street**

Yonge Street from Shuter Street to Queen Street will have the sidewalks widened to improve the pedestrian experience and calm traffic. The design features two lanes of traffic with lay-bys for deliveries and ride hailing for the theaters and stores that do not have rear access. Like other portions of the street, the sidewalks will be widened to support comfortable pedestrian movement and also provide for landscaping, patios and street retail in flexible, strategic locations. Vehicles will be expected to share the road with cyclists. Access to the Eaton Centre parking garage will be maintained, as would the existing turning restrictions at the Yonge Street and Queen Street intersection.

## **6.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION**

The segment of Yonge Street from College Street to Queen Street is highly urbanized and does not support any natural heritage features. As a result, there will be no significant adverse effects on vegetation and vegetation communities, fish and fish habitat, wildlife and wildlife habitat and designated natural areas.

### **6.1 Soils**

The soils located along Yonge Street are susceptible to erosion and will be impacted during construction as a result of demolition, excavation and grading. Consequently, soil disturbance associated with ground disturbance may result in erosion of soils, and sedimentation to, catch basins, storm sewers and adjacent lands. For this reason, standard erosion and sediment control measures will be followed during construction in accordance with Ontario Provincial Standard Specification (OPSS) 805 – Construction Specification for Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Measures (2010) to minimize construction-related impacts on stormwater management facilities and adjacent lands. Site-specific erosion and sedimentation control measures to be implemented prior to construction will be identified during detail design following best management practices recommended in the Erosion and Sediment Control Guideline for Urban Construction (Greater Golden Horseshoe Area Conservation Authorities 2006).

This guidance document will be used to prepare a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control Plan that will implement a multi-barrier solution that includes:

- placing construction fencing, hoarding and/or silt fence around the perimeter of the work area to prevent the migration of sediments from the work zone onto adjacent lands;
- protecting inlets to catch basins and maintenance holes using filter socks, silt fence or other suitable erosion control method;
- managing stormwater during construction to prevent contact with exposed soils;
- implementing erosion control products within exposed areas such as erosion control blankets, coir logs, tackifiers and mulch, etc.;
- implementing temporary stormwater treatment measures during construction including sediment bags, sediment basins/ponds, vacuum trucks, etc.;
- limiting the extent and duration that soils are exposed to the elements to the minimum area and time necessary to perform the work; and,
- monitoring and maintenance of erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction to ensure their effectiveness.

Temporary erosion and sediment controls shall be inspected on a regular basis in accordance with the following documents:

- Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection Guide (TRCA 2008); and,
- Silt Smart: Erosion and Sediment Control Effectiveness Monitoring and Rapid Response Protocol for Large Urban Development Sites (CVC, MNRF, MECP and DFO 2012).

As a minimum, erosion and sediment control facilities shall be inspected on a daily basis during installation, prior to forecasted major storm events, during snowmelt and following significant storm events. Inspections for routine maintenance of erosion and sediment controls shall occur once per week, unless maintenance/repairs are required upon inspection and after significant storm events.

These environmental protection measures will greatly reduce the potential for soil erosion and impairment of surface water quality.

## **6.2 Fish and Fish Habitat**

There is no fish or fish habitat located in the study area; therefore, the project will have no adverse effects on fisheries.

## **6.3 Vegetation and Vegetation Communities**

There are no vegetation communities located in the study area; therefore, the project will have no adverse effects on vegetation communities.

Tree resources that are located along Yonge Street are addressed in the Arborist Report under separate cover.

## **6.4 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat**

Trees and buildings located in the study area have low habitat capability, although birds and mammals will occupy this urban environment. Urban wildlife is typically acclimatized to human activity, including noise, light and vibration and human intrusion, and will continue to reside in the study area during and after construction, or leave the area during construction and return once construction is complete.

It is anticipated that bird species listed under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) are located in the study area. The MBCA prohibits the killing, capturing, injuring, taking or disturbing of migratory birds (including eggs) or the damaging, destroying, removing or disturbing of nests. While migratory insectivorous and non-game birds are protected year-round, migratory game birds are only protected from March 10 to September 1. The study area lands fall within Environment Canada's

Nesting Zone C2 (Nesting Period: end of March – end of August). Consequently, to comply with the requirements of the MBCA, it is recommended that disturbance, clearing or disruption of vegetation where birds may be nesting should be completed outside the window of April 1 to August 31 to avoid the breeding bird season for the majority of the bird species protected under the Act. In the event that these activities must be undertaken from April 1 to August 31, a nest screening survey will be conducted by a qualified avian biologist. If an active nest is located, a mitigation plan shall be developed and provided to Environment Canada – Ontario Region for review prior to implementation.

## **6.5 Designated Natural Areas**

There are no designated natural areas located in the study area; therefore, the project will have no adverse effects on designated natural areas.

## 7.0 REFERENCES

- Cadman, M.D., D.A. Sutherland, G.G. Beck, D. Lepage, and A.R. Couturier (eds.). 2007. *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario, 2001-2005*. Bird Studies Canada, Environment Canada, Ontario Field Ornithologists, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Ontario Nature, Toronto, xxii + 706 pp;
- Chapman, L.J. and D.F. Putnam. 1984. *The Physiography of Southern Ontario*; Ontario Geological Survey, Special Volume 2, 270 p. Accompanied by Map P.2715 (coloured), scale 1:600 000.
- City of Toronto Official Plan. June 2015. Consolidation.
- DFO/MNR/Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. 2015. *Distribution of Fish Species at Risk Map*.
- Dobbyn, J. 1994. *Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario*. Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Don Mills, ON. 120 pp.
- Harding, J. H. 1997. *Amphibians and Reptiles of the Great Lakes Region*. University of Michigan Press, Michigan. 378pp.
- Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). 2011. *Natural Heritage Information Centre Biodiversity Explorer*. Website available online: <http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/nhic.cfm>. Ministry of Natural Resources. Peterborough, Ontario.
- MNRF. 2000. Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide. 151p.
- MNRF. 2015. Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 7E. 40 p.
- North-South Environmental, Dougan and Associates, and Beacon Environmental. 2012. *Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs) in the City of Toronto*. Prepared for Toronto City Planning, June 2012.

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX A**

### **SPECIES RANK DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS**

**APPENDIX A**  
**ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS USED IN SPECIES LISTS**

**Species Rank**

<b>GRANK</b>	<b>Global Rank</b>
<p>Global ranks are assigned by a consensus of the network of Conservation Data Centres, scientific experts, and The Nature Conservancy to designate a rarity rank based on the range-wide status of a species, subspecies or variety.</p> <p>The most important factors considered in assigning global ranks are the total number of known, extant sites world-wide, and the degree to which they are potentially or actively threatened with destruction. Other criteria include the number of known populations considered to be securely protected, the size of the various populations, and the ability of the taxon to persist at its known sites. The taxonomic distinctness of each taxon has also been considered. Hybrids, introduced species, and taxonomically dubious species, subspecies and varieties have not been included.</p>	
<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Definition</b>
G1	<b>Extremely rare</b> ; usually 5 or fewer occurrences in the overall range or very few remaining individuals; or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extinction.
G2	<b>Very rare</b> ; usually between 5 and 20 occurrences in the overall range or with many individuals in fewer occurrences; or because of some factor(s) making it vulnerable to extinction.
G3	<b>Rare to uncommon</b> ; usually between 20 and 100 occurrences; may have fewer occurrences, but with a large number of individuals in some populations; may be susceptible to large-scale disturbances.
G4	<b>Common</b> ; usually more than 100 occurrences; usually not susceptible to immediate threats.
G5	<b>Very common</b> ; demonstrably secure under present conditions.
GH	Historic, no records in the past 20 years.
GU	Status uncertain, often because of low search effort or cryptic nature of the species; more data needed.
GX	Globally extinct. No recent records despite specific searches.
?	Denotes inexact numeric rank (i.e. G4?).
G	A "G" (or "T") followed by a blank space means that the NHIC has not yet obtained the Global Rank from The Nature Conservancy.
G?	Unranked, or, if following a ranking, rank tentatively assigned (e.g. G3?).
Q	Denotes that the taxonomic status of the species, subspecies, or variety is questionable.
T	Denotes that the rank applies to a subspecies or variety.

<b>SRANK</b>	<b>Provincial Rank</b>
<p>Provincial (or Sub-national) ranks are used by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) to set protection priorities for rare species and natural communities. These ranks are not legal designations. Provincial ranks are assigned in a manner similar to that described for global ranks, but consider only those factors within the political boundaries of Ontario. By comparing the global and provincial ranks, the status, rarity, and the urgency of conservation needs can be ascertained. The NHIC evaluates provincial ranks on a continual basis and produces updated lists at least annually.</p>	
<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Definition</b>
S1	<b>Critically Imperiled</b> in Ontario because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation.

<b>SRANK</b>	<b>Provincial Rank</b>
<p>Provincial (or Sub-national) ranks are used by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) to set protection priorities for rare species and natural communities. These ranks are not legal designations. Provincial ranks are assigned in a manner similar to that described for global ranks, but consider only those factors within the political boundaries of Ontario. By comparing the global and provincial ranks, the status, rarity, and the urgency of conservation needs can be ascertained. The NHIC evaluates provincial ranks on a continual basis and produces updated lists at least annually.</p>	
<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Definition</b>
S2	<b>Imperiled</b> in Ontario because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer occurrences) steep declines or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation.
S3	<b>Vulnerable</b> in Ontario due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.
S4	<b>Apparently Secure</b> —Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
S5	<b>Secure</b> —Common, widespread, and abundant in Ontario.
SX	<b>Presumed Extirpated</b> – Species or community is believed to be extirpated from Ontario.
SH	<b>Possibly Extirpated</b> – Species or community occurred historically in Ontario and there is some possibility that it may be rediscovered.
SNR	<b>Unranked</b> —Conservation status in Ontario not yet assessed
SU	<b>Unrankable</b> —Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
SNA	<b>Not Applicable</b> —A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities.
S#S#	<b>Range Rank</b> —A numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate any range of uncertainty about the status of the species or community. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., SU is used rather than S1S4).

<b>COSEWIC</b>	<b>Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada</b>
<p>The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assesses the national status of wild species that are considered to be at risk in Canada.</p>	
<b>Status</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Extinct (X)	A wildlife species that no longer exists.
Extirpated (XT)	A wildlife species no longer existing in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere.
Endangered (E)	A wildlife species facing imminent extirpation or extinction.
Threatened (T)	A wildlife species likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.
Special Concern (SC)	A wildlife species that may become a threatened or an endangered species because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.
Not at Risk (NAR)	A wildlife species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk of extinction given the current circumstances.
Data Deficient (DD)	A category that applies when the available information is insufficient (a) to resolve a wildlife species' eligibility for assessment or (b) to permit an assessment of the wildlife species' risk of extinction.

<b>COSSARO/OMNR</b>	<b>Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario/Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources</b>
The Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO)/Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) assesses the provincial status of wild species that are considered to be at risk in Ontario.	
<b>Status</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Extinct (EXT)	A species that no longer exists anywhere.
Extirpated (EXP)	A species that no longer exists in the wild in Ontario but still occurs elsewhere.
Endangered (Regulated) (END-R)	A species facing imminent extinction or extirpation in Ontario which has been regulated under Ontario's <i>Endangered Species Act</i> .
Endangered (END)	A species facing imminent extinction or extirpation in Ontario which is a candidate for regulation under Ontario's <i>Endangered Species Act</i> .
Threatened (THR)	A species that is at risk of becoming endangered in Ontario if limiting factors are not reversed.
Special Concern (SC)	A species with characteristics that make it sensitive to human activities or natural events.
Not at Risk (NAR)	A species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk.
Data Deficient (DD)	A species for which there is insufficient information for a provincial status recommendation.

### Species Status under Federal Legislation

<b>MBCA</b>	<b>Migratory Birds Convention Act</b>
The Canada <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> provides for the protection of migratory birds in Canada and the United States. The provisions of this Act are implemented through the Migratory Bird Regulations.	
Bird species that are regulated under the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> are noted in the applicable species lists.	

<b>SARA</b>	<b>Species at Risk Act</b>
The Canada <i>Species at Risk Act</i> provides a framework for actions across Canada to ensure the survival of wildlife species and the protection of our natural heritage. It sets out how to decide which species are a priority for action and what to do to protect a species. It identifies ways governments, organizations and individuals can work together, and it establishes penalties for a failure to obey the law. Regulated species are listed in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the Act.	
Schedule 1 SARA (1)	Species that are currently covered under the Act.
Schedule 2 SARA (2)	Species that are endangered or threatened that have not been re-assessed by COSEWIC for inclusion on Schedule 1.
Schedule 3 SARA (3)	Species that are of special concern that have not yet been re-assessed by COSEWIC for inclusion on Schedule 1.

## Species Status under Provincial Legislation

<b>ESA</b> <b>Endangered Species Act</b>		
The Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i> provides for the conservation, protection, restoration and propagation of species of fauna and flora of the Province of Ontario that are threatened with extinction. Regulated species are listed in Ontario Regulation 338.		
<b>Schedule No.</b>	<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Status</b>
Schedule 1 ESA (1)	EXT	The species of flora and fauna listed in Schedule 1 are declared to be threatened with extinction.
Schedule 2 ESA (2)	EXP	The species of flora and fauna listed in Schedule 2 are declared to be extirpated.
Schedule 3 ESA (3)	END	The species of flora and fauna listed in Schedule 3 are declared to be endangered.
Schedule 4 ESA (4)	THR	The species of flora and fauna listed in Schedule 4 are declared to be threatened.
Schedule 5 ESA (5)	SC	The species of flora and fauna listed in Schedule 5 are declared to be special concern.

<b>FWCA</b> <b>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</b>		
The Ontario <i>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</i> outlines the restrictions for hunting, trapping and fishing; handling of live wildlife; sale, purchase and transport of wildlife; and, licences that can be secured under the Act. Under Schedules 1 to 11 of the Act, wildlife are grouped for the purpose of regulating these species. These schedules are further defined below.		
Note: where there is a conflict between this Act and the Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i> , the provision with the most protection will prevail (s. 2 of the <i>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</i> ).		
<b>Schedule No.</b>	<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Status</b>
Schedule 1	Furbearing – M	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 1 are declared to be furbearing mammals.
Schedule 2	Game – M	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 2 are declared to be game mammals.
Schedule 3	Game – B	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 3 are declared to be game birds.
Schedule 4	Game – R	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 4 are declared to be game reptiles.
Schedule 5	Game – A	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 5 are declared to be game amphibians.
Schedule 6	Specially Protected – M	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 6 are declared to be specially protected mammals.
Schedule 7	Specially Protected – R	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 7 are declared to be specially protected birds (raptors).
Schedule 8	Specially Protected – B	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 8 are declared to be specially protected birds (other than raptors).
Schedule 9	Specially Protected – R	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 9 are declared to be specially protected reptiles.
Schedule 10	Specially Protected – A	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 10 are declared to be specially protected amphibians.

<b>FWCA</b>	<b>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</b>	
<p>The Ontario <i>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</i> outlines the restrictions for hunting, trapping and fishing; handling of live wildlife; sale, purchase and transport of wildlife; and, licences that can be secured under the Act. Under Schedules 1 to 11 of the Act, wildlife are grouped for the purpose of regulating these species. These schedules are further defined below.</p> <p>Note: where there is a conflict between this Act and the Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i>, the provision with the most protection will prevail (s. 2 of the <i>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act</i>).</p>		
<b>Schedule No.</b>	<b>Short Form</b>	<b>Status</b>
Schedule 11	Specially Protected – I	The species of fauna listed in Schedule 11 are declared to be specially protected invertebrates.

### Local Species Status

<b>TRCA</b>	<b>Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</b>	
<p>The TRCA assigns a level of conservation concern for flora and fauna (L1 to L5) in its watersheds (TRCA 2003). The L Rank is determined based on four factors: local occurrence, population trend, habitat dependence, and sensitivity to development.</p>		
<b>L-Rank</b>	<b>Definition</b>	
L5	Able to withstand high levels of disturbance; generally secure throughout the jurisdiction, including the urban matrix. May be of very localized concern in highly degraded areas.	
L4	Able to withstand some disturbance; generally secure in rural matrix; of concern in urban matrix.	
L3	Able to withstand minor disturbance; generally secure in natural matrix; considered to be of regional concern.	
L2	Unable to withstand disturbance; some criteria are very limiting factors; generally occur in high-quality natural areas, in natural matrix; probably rare in the TRCA jurisdiction; of concern regionally.	
L1	Unable to withstand disturbance; many criteria are limiting factors; generally occur in high-quality natural areas in natural matrix; almost certainly rare in the TRCA jurisdiction; of concern regionally.	
LX	Extirpated from our region with remote chance of rediscovery. Presumably highly sensitive.	
LH	Hybrid between two native species. Usually not scored unless highly stable and behaves like a species (e.g. <i>Equisetum x nelsonii</i> )	
L+	Exotic. Not native to TRCA jurisdiction. Includes hybrids between a native species and an exotic	
L+?	Origin uncertain or disputed, i.e. may or may not be native.	

<b>BSC</b>	<b>Bird Studies Canada</b>
<p>The Bird Studies Canada <i>Conservation Priorities for the Birds of Southern Ontario</i> (1999), based on work completed by Bird Studies Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service and the MNR identifies bird species of high conservation priority. This list was prepared to assist municipalities in identifying significant natural heritage features, through using the information regarding the presence of birds of conservation priority in their municipality.</p> <p>Birds of conservation priority have been noted (BSC) in the appropriate species lists.</p>	

<b>Local</b>
<p><b>SWH (Significant Wildlife Habitat)</b> Indicator species of woodland area-sensitive bird breeding habitat</p> <p><b>INT (Interior Forest Species)</b> Indicator species of interior forest bird breeding habitat</p>