

### **Gerrard Street East | Complete Street Connection**

**Transportation Services** 

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We acknowledge the land we occupy is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.



### **Presentation Overview**

- Project Overview
- Why Consider Change?
- Project Design Features
- Design Proposal
- Project Coordination and Next Steps
- Question and Answer



### Introductions

#### **Project Team:**

- Maili Sedore, Transportation Services
- Becky Katz, Transportation Services
- Sami Khaled, Transportation Services
- Basil Tsomokos, Transportation Services
- Dominic Cobran, Public Consultation Unit
- IBI Group Representatives





### Issaq Ahmed Councillor's Office- Ward 13



### Agenda



6:30 p.m. 6:40 p.m. 6:55 p.m. 7:25 p.m. 8:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions

- **Opening Remarks**
- Presentation
  - Question and Answer Segment

Meeting is adjourned





### **Gerrard Street East | Complete Street Connection**

**Transportation Services** 

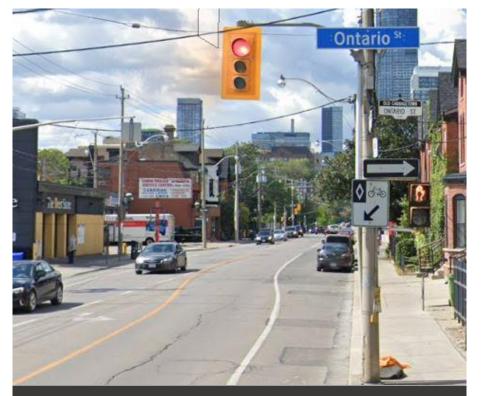
# Project Overview





### **Project Overview**

- Gerrard St E from Sherbourne St to Parliament St is scheduled for reconstruction in 2023.
- Gerrard St E from Parliament St to River St south side will be completely rebuilt through the Regent Park redevelopment over the next 5 years and beyond.
- The road reconstruction paired with the major redevelopment provides a unique opportunity to review the street through a complete street lens and apply Council-adopted policies such as TransformTO and Vision Zero.

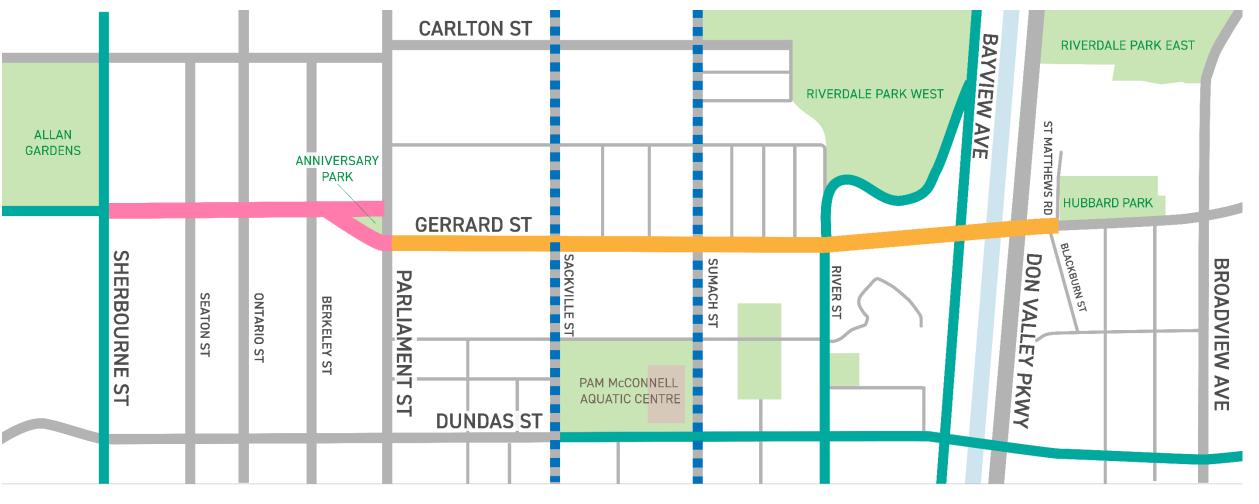


Gerrard St Corridor at Ontario St Looking West



# **Project Overview | Project Limits**





2023 RECONSTRUCTION - GERRARD EAST COMPLETE STREET FUTURE REDEVELOPMENT AND CONNECTION THROUGH REGENT PARK EXISTING CYCLING FACILITIES

FUTURE CYCLING CONNECTIONS BEING EXPLORED



## **Project Overview | Goals**

### Improve safety for everyone

Maintain roadways for driving, transit, deliveries, and emergency services

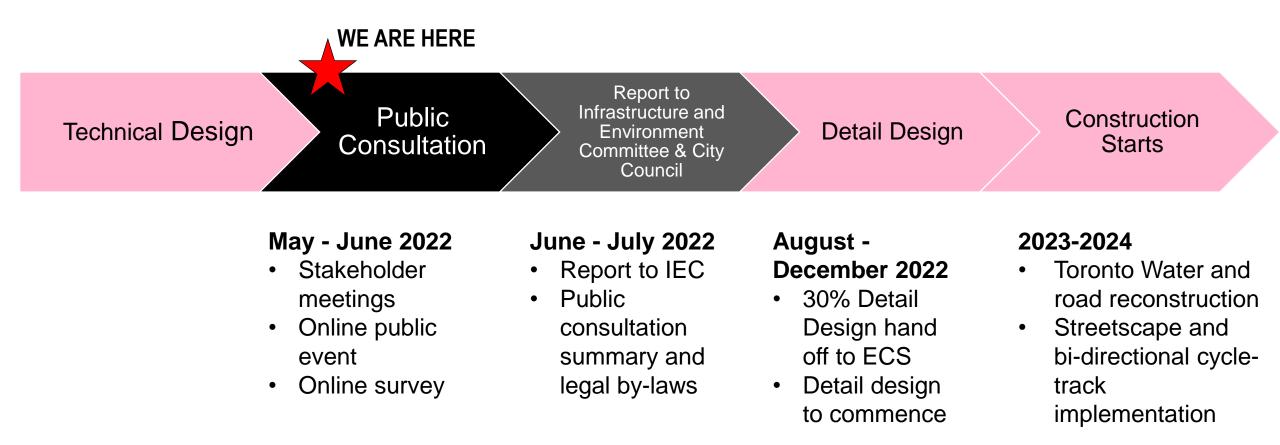
# Enhance the public realm for local residents and visitors



Jackson St., St. Paul, Minnesota https://www.sehinc.com/portfolio/jacksonstreet-reconstruction



## **Project Overview | Timeline**





# Why Consider Change?



### Why Consider Change? | Policy and Rationale for Road Safety





Official Plan Goals Make Toronto a "walking city"



Complete Streets Guidelines

Create streets for people, place making and prosperity



Road to Health: Healthy Toronto by Design

Increase physical activity to reduce illness and disease



Reduce Reliance on Motor Vehicles

Provide alternatives to driving and use roadways more efficiently



Vision Zero Road Safety Plan

Prevent fatalities and serious injuries



Encouraging People of All Ages and Abilities to Ride

Encourage people who are "interested but concerned" to ride by creating safe bikeways



#### TransformTO: Climate Action Strategy

Target 75% of school/work trips under 5 km are walked, cycled or by transit by 2030



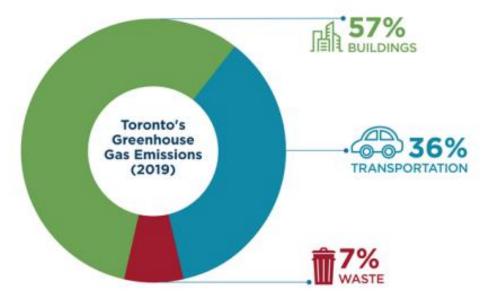
#### Office of Recovery and Rebuild COVID-19

Adopt healthy, less cardependent and connected streets created during COVID-19



# Why Consider Change? | TransformTO

- TransformTO is Toronto's ambitious climate action strategy. Unanimously approved by City Council in July 2017, it includes a set of long-term, low-carbon goals and strategies to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and improve our health, grow our economy, and improve social equity.
- On October 2, 2019, City Council voted unanimously to declare a <u>climate emergency</u> and accelerate efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, adopting a stronger emissions reduction target of net zero by 2050 or sooner.
- Transportation sources in Toronto are responsible for just over one third (36%) of local greenhouse gas emissions.
- TransformTO sets an ambitious goal that active transportation (cycling and walking) or by transit account for 75% of school/work trips under 5 km citywide by 2030.
- Redesigning streets to improve safety and comfort for people cycling and walking is one way to achieve TransformTO active transportation goals.





# Why Consider Change? | Realizing the TOcore Vision

- Gerrard St E between Parliament St and River St was identified as a TOcore Great Street.
- TOcore proposes a bi-directional cycle track through Regent Park.
- Regent Park redevelopment provides opportunity to widen the corridor and secure space for a bi-directional cycle track along the south side of the roadway.
- Transportation Services is currently working with City Planning to realize TOcore's vision for Gerrard St E.





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# Why Consider Change? | Vision Zero



Between 2016 and 2020, along Gerrard Street East:

• 1 person driving was seriously injured

A total of **15 cyclist collisions** were recorded:

- 9 collisions occurred at an intersection
- 6 collisions occurred at a midblock location

A total of **5 pedestrian collisions** were recorded:

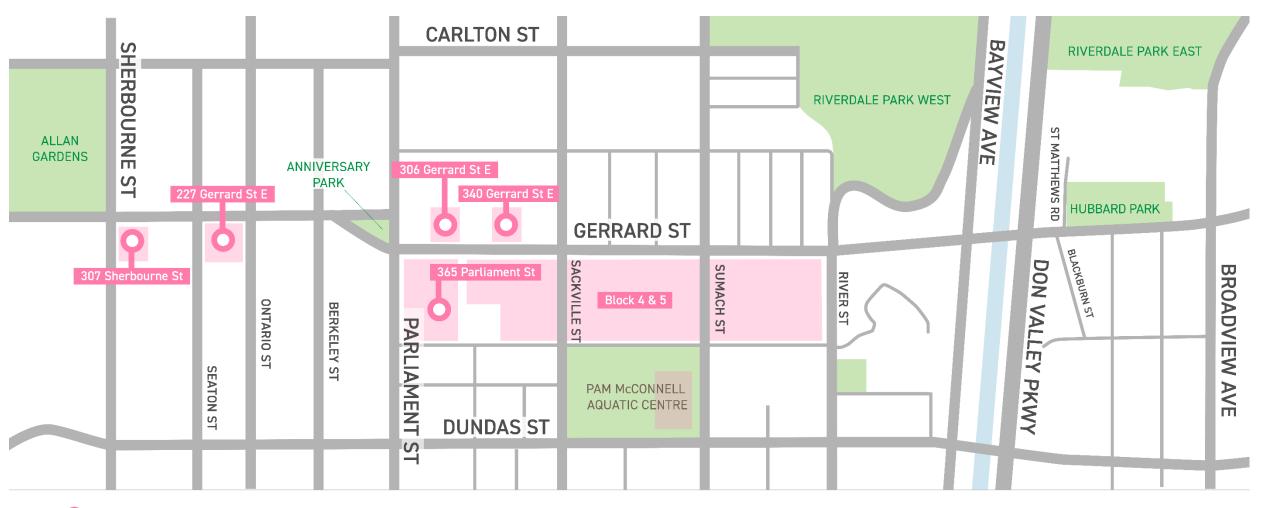
- 3 collisions occurred at an intersection
- 2 collisions occurred at a midblock location

INTERSECTION	PEDESTRIAN COLLISIONS	CYCLIST COLLISIONS
Sherbourne Street	3	7
Seaton Street		1
Ontario Street	1	
Parliament Street	1	7
Total	5	15

Traditional Road Safety Approach	Vision Zero Approach
Traffic fatalities are inevitable.	Traffic fatalities are <b>preventable.</b>
Crashes are caused by non- compliant road users.	Humans make mistakes. The roadway system should be designed and operated so those <b>mistakes are not</b> <b>deadly.</b>
Try to reduce all collisions.	Prevent collisions that result in serious injuries and fatalities. <b>No serious</b> <b>injuries or loss of life is</b> <b>acceptable.</b>
Individual road users are responsible for their own safety.	Safety is a shared responsibility between those who <b>design, operate,</b> <b>maintain, and use the road</b> .
Reactive to historical crashes.	<b>Proactive and systemic</b> prioritization.



# Why Consider Change? | Leveraging Developments



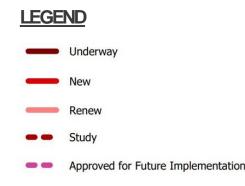
DEVELOPMENTS ALONG GERRARD STREET

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# Why Consider Change? | Missing Link



- Gerrard Street East is a top-scoring cycling route on a citywide level
- Regent Park redevelopment between Parliament Street and River Street represents an opportunity to connect the missing link in the cycling network
- North/south cycling connections can be made at Sherbourne Street and River Street
- Future north/south cycling connections along Sackville Street and/or Sumach Street are being explored



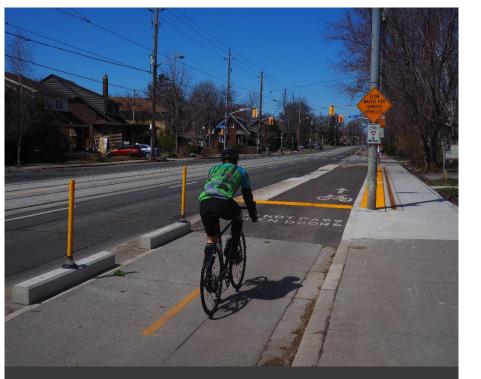


Gerrard St East is scheduled for renewal in 2023



# Why Consider Change? | Bikeway Design Guidelines

- The City of Toronto's bikeway designs are guided by Transportation Association (TAC) Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads, the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) and City adopted guidelines.
- In all of the above guiding documents, motor vehicle speed and volume are the most important criteria to identify the right bikeway for a street.
- Gerrard Street E has 14,000 vehicles/day and a posted speed of 40 km/hour.
- Based on the traffic's speed and volume data the recommended bikeway type for Gerrard Street E is a cycle track in all the guiding documents.



Lakeshore Boulevard West Bi-Directional Cycle Track



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#### Boulevard

The part of a street that is between the roadway and sidewalk, and is not used for vehicle travel.



#### Median or Buffer

The strip of land between the lanes of opposing traffic on a divided roadway.



#### Streetscape

Elements that form the street's *character* including the road, sidewalks, street furniture, trees and open spaces.







#### **Curb Extensions**

These 'bump-outs' visually and physically narrow the roadway, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians while increasing the sidewalk space



#### **Raised Crossings**

The raised areas at intersections improve the visibility of people crossing and increase awareness of drivers' speeds.



#### **Left-Turn Calming**

Speed bumps encourage drivers to approach the crosswalk at a sharper angle, resulting in slower turning speeds and better visibility.







#### **Green infrastructure**

Green infrastructure allows for runoff water from the street to be naturally filtered and slowed down before entering the sewer system.



#### **Transit Stops**

The location of transit stops is generally guided by the safety and comfort of transit users, spacing between stops, and nearby intersections and land uses.



#### **Curb Radii Reduction**

Reduced curb radii reduce pedestrian crossing distances and encourage lower motor vehicle speeds.

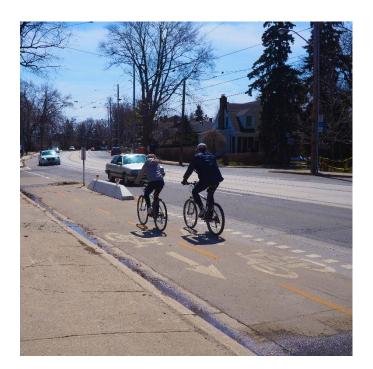






#### **Raised Cycle Track**

Vertically separated from motor vehicle traffic, at the level of the adjacent sidewalk or combined with a parking lane or other barrier from the roadway.



#### Street-level Cycle Track Physically separated from motor vehicle traffic by a curb or concrete/ planted median, at the road level.



#### **Protected Intersection**

A protected intersection is a design where the bikeway remains separated; enhanced measures mitigate the conflict between people cycling, walking and drivers turning.



# **Design Proposal**



# **Design Proposal | Existing Conditions**



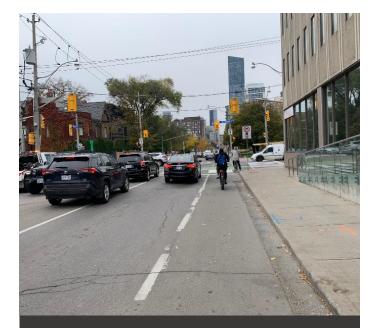
- Total Right of Way Width: ~20 m
- Total Roadway Width: ~13.2 m curb-tocurb
- **Bikeway Type:** Painted bicycle lanes on both sides
- Vehicle Lanes:
  - 1 lane per direction with some curbside on-street parking
  - Dedicated turn lanes at signalized intersections
- Speed: 40 km/h posted speed
- Transit (Bus and Streetcar):
  - 65 and 365 Parliament to Esplanade
  - 75 Sherbourne
  - 506 and 306 Carlton (streetcar)

- Daily traffic volume:
  - Motor vehicles: 14,000 (2018)
    - Corridor volume decreased 35% 2008-2019 (measured at Church St)
  - Pedestrians: 1,000-2,000 (2018)
  - Bicycles: 1,000 (2016)
- Collisions (2016 2020):
  - Killed/Seriously injured: 1
  - Involving people walking: 15
  - Involving people cycling: 33



## **Design Proposal | Existing Conditions**





Gerrard St East and Sherbourne St intersection looking west



Gerrard St East and Ontario St intersection looking west



Gerrard St East and Berkeley St intersection looking west

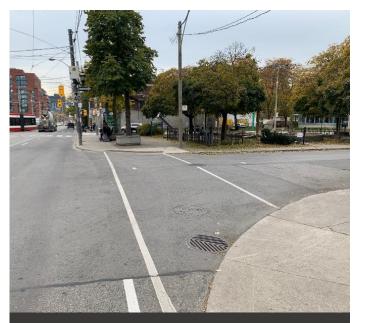


## **Design Proposal | Existing Conditions**

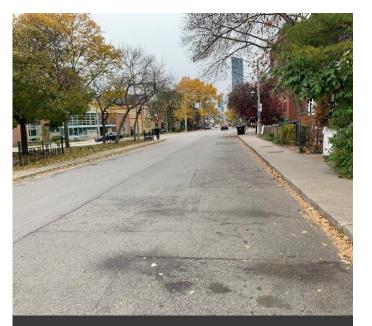




Gerrard St and Berkeley St intersection with PXO looking west



Parliament St at Slip lane looking south



Anniversary Park slip lane looking west





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The road reconstruction will include the **state of good repair** of the asphalt surface and damaged sections of the sidewalks, relocation of south side curb and gutters, along with the following proposed changes:

- Intersection safety measures including corner radii reductions, pedestrian head-start signals, and right-turn-on-red restrictions and removals;
- Maintaining one vehicular travel lane per direction, narrowed to City lane width guidelines to encourage improved speed limit compliance in off-peak hours;
- **Bi-directional cycle track on the south side**, including an interim north side (westbound) cycle track which can potentially be converted to parking once the Regent Park redevelopment is complete and the bi-directional cycle track opens east of Parliament Street;
- Parking removal on the north and south sides of Gerrard Street East for the entire stretch\*; with the opportunity for Wheel-trans or pick-up and drop-off lay-bys on the south side;
- Boulevard improvements, including wider sidewalks, green infrastructure and new or improved tree planting areas\*; and
- Raised crossings at un-signalized intersections\*.

\* denotes items that need to be confirmed through detail design



# **Design Proposal | Overview**





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# **Parking & Loading Impacts**



#### • Estimated parking impacts:

- 12 spots on the north side (temporarily removed for interim cycle track)
- 7 spots on the south side permanently removed

### Accessible loading zones – Wheel-Trans accommodation (lay-bys)

- Introduced at higher frequency Wheel-Trans loading sites
- Could consider additional pick-up and drop-off lay-by on south side

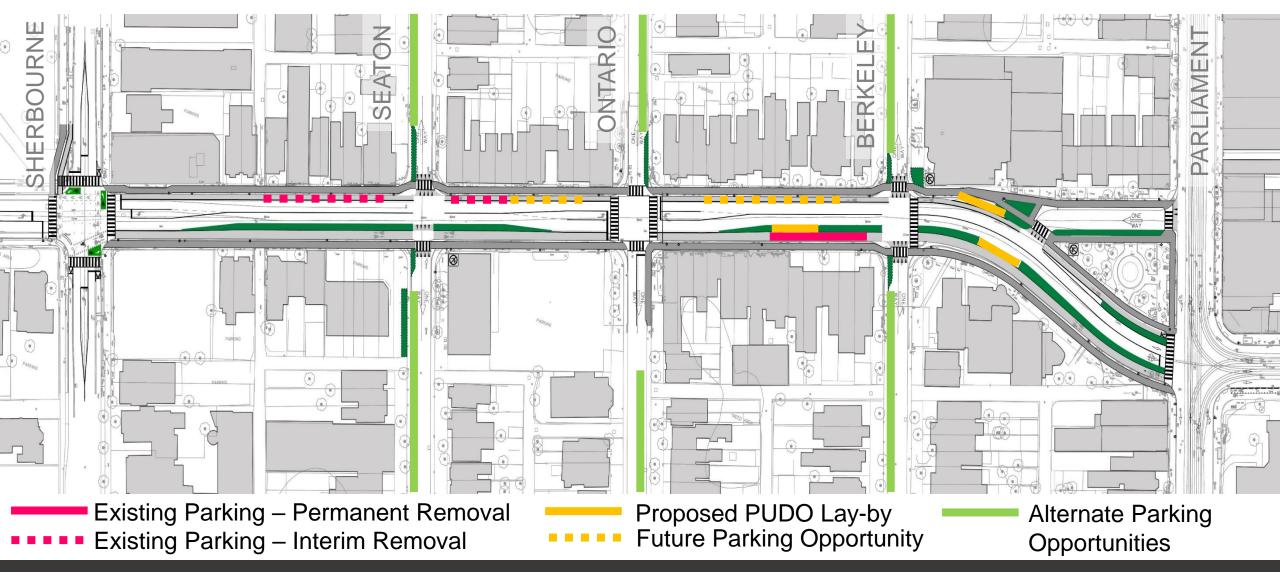
### Alternate parking spaces on-street:

- 1 hour parking across side streets (total 60 spaces)
- Current utilization of on-street side street parking = 50% on average based on a weekday afternoon count (April 2022)



# **Parking/Loading Impacts**





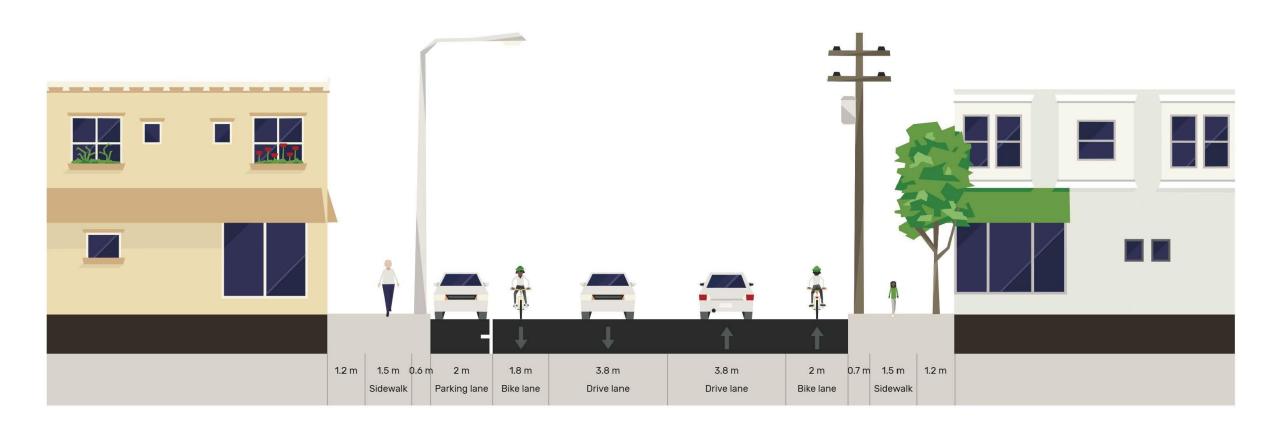




# Design Proposal | Midblock Sherbourne Street to Parliament Street



## **Existing : Gerrard Street East | Midblock**

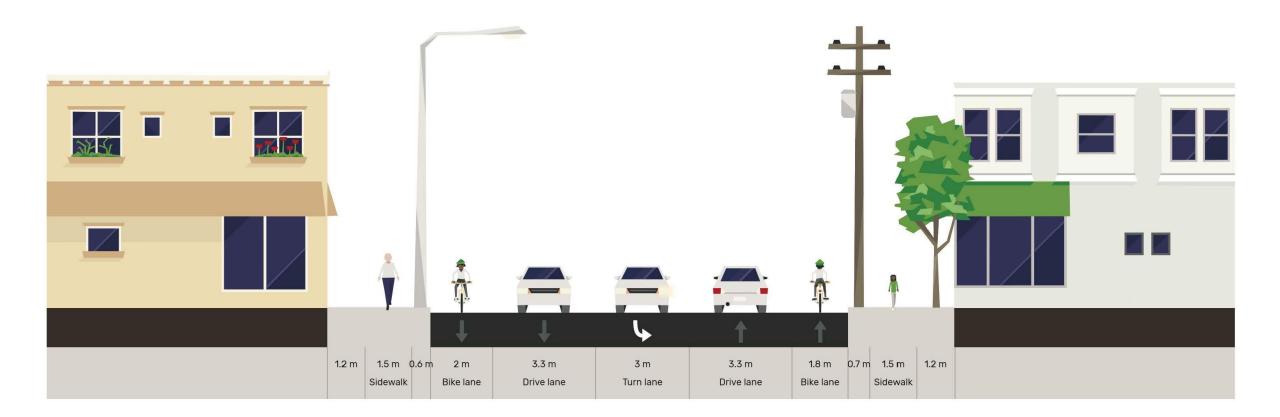




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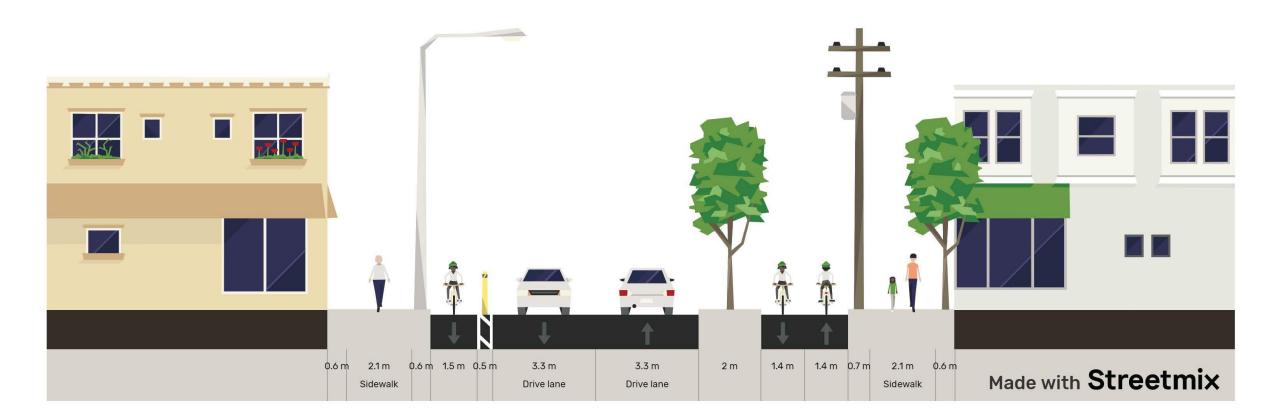
### Existing : Gerrard Street East | Midblock with Turn Lane







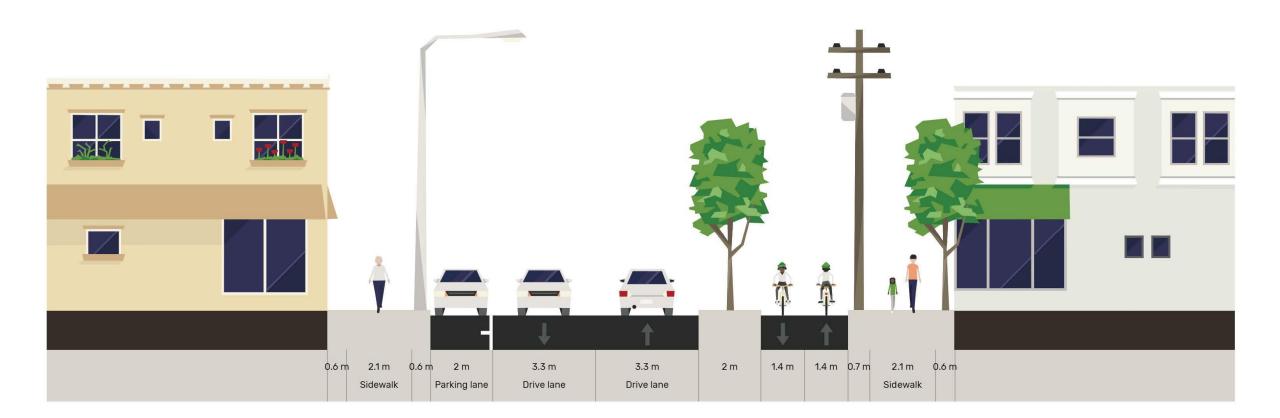
## **Proposed Interim: Gerrard Street East | Midblock**





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## **Proposed Final: Gerrard Street East | Midblock**





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## Design Proposal | Intersections



## **Existing | Sherbourne St Intersection**



#### **Existing Condition**

- 12.2m wide two-lane roadway (one lane in each direction)
- Designated left turn lanes
- Uni-directional cycling facilities
- Bike boxes

#### **Opportunities**

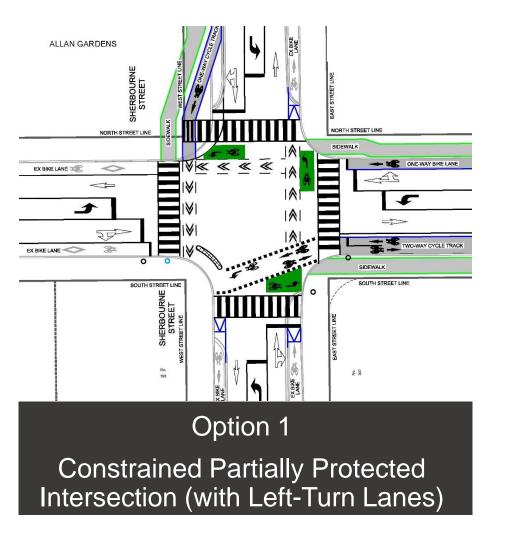
- Protected intersection
- Enhanced park entryway at Allan Gardens
- Removal of left turn lanes

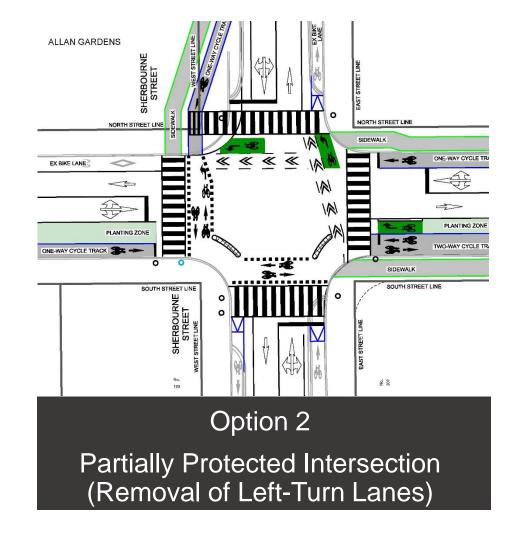


Existing Condition Gerrard St and Sherbourne St Intersection Looking West



## **Proposed | Sherbourne St Intersection Options**







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## **Existing | Ontario St Intersection**

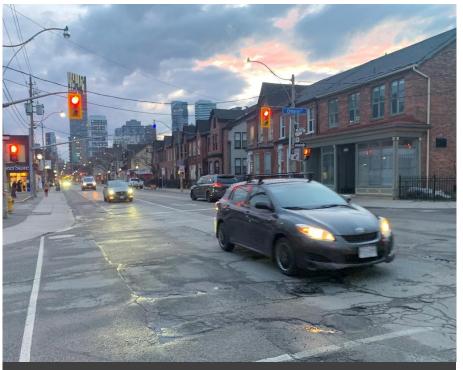


#### **Existing Condition**

- 12.5m wide two-way roadway (one lane in each direction)
- Heavy vehicle prohibitions
- Designated left turn lanes
- 1hr Parking Permitted on east side

#### **Opportunities**

- Radii reductions
- Narrow roadway on Ontario St
- Removal of left turn lanes
- Coordinate with Developer for south leg

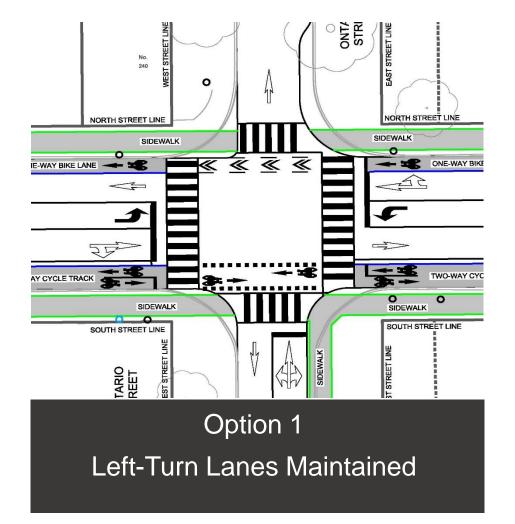


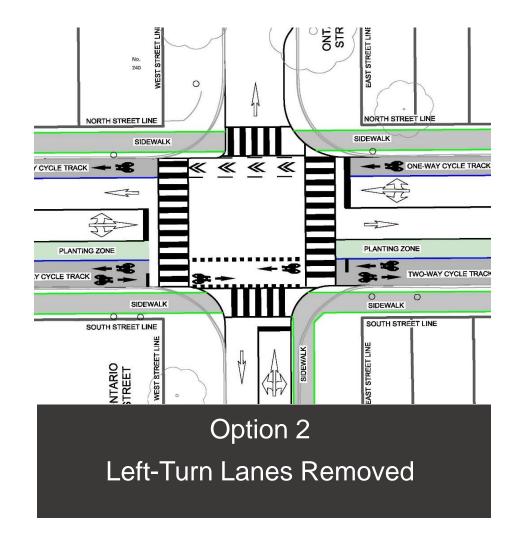
Existing Condition Gerrard St East and Ontario St Intersection Looking West



## **Proposed | Ontario St Intersection Options**









## **Existing | Parliament Intersection**

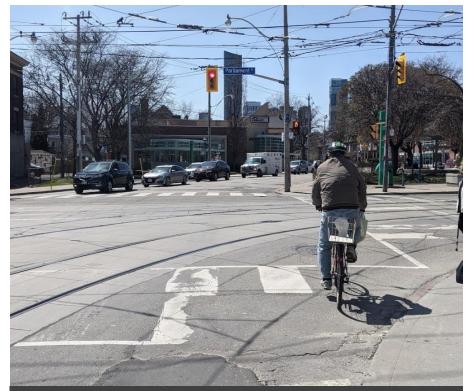
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#### **Existing Condition**

- 14m wide four-lane roadway
- Streetcar tracks
- No parking

#### **Opportunities**

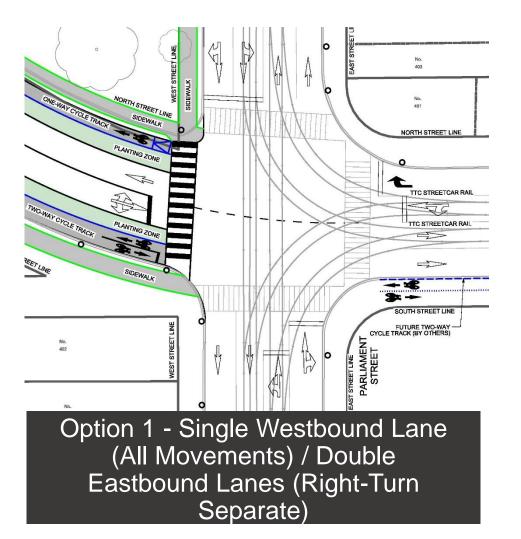
- Protected intersection
- Improved accessibility
- Enhanced park entryway at Anniversary Park
- Connect to future development East of Gerrard St East and Parliament St

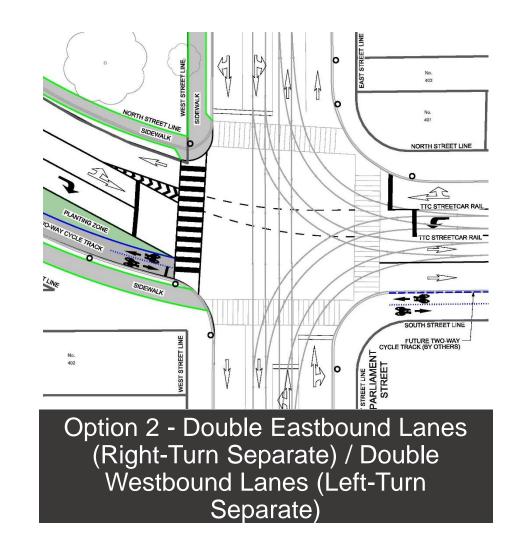


Existing Condition Gerrard St East and Parliament St Intersection Looking West



## **Proposal | Parliament Intersection Options**







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## Design Proposal | Anniversary Park Slip Lane





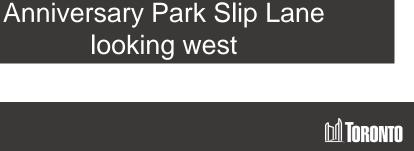
## **Existing | Anniversary Park Slip Lane**

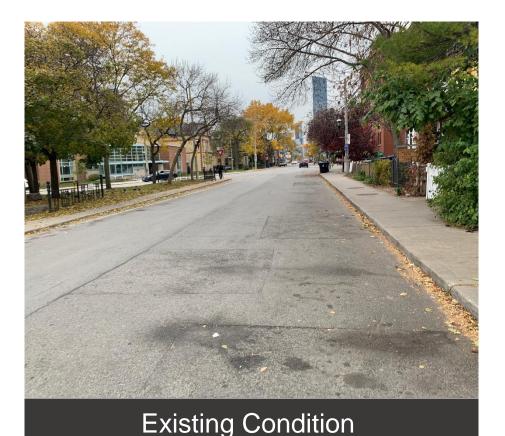
#### **Existing Condition**

- No parking
- 9.2m wide roadway
- Narrow sidewalks
- Access to Anniversary Park
- No dedicated cycling facilities

#### **Opportunities**

- Narrow the roadway
- Reduce vehicle speeds
- Create shared space
- Green infrastructure







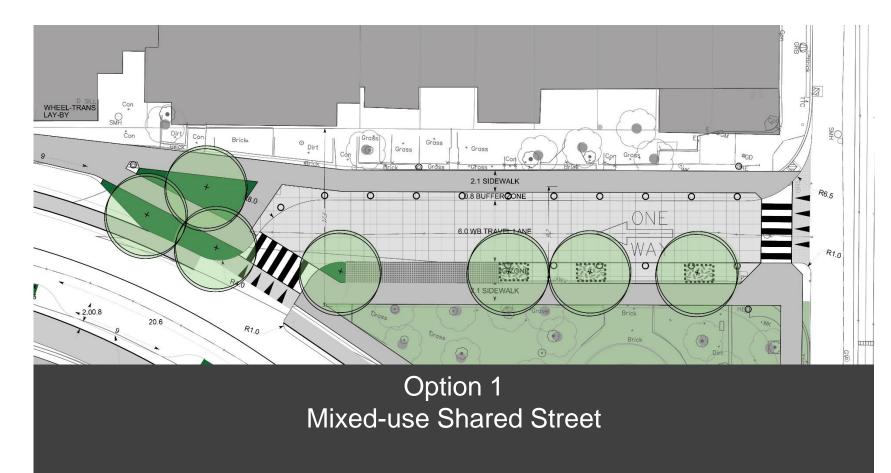
## Proposed | Anniversary Park Slip Lane – Option 1

#### **Opportunities**

- Increase pedestrian safety and comfort with wider sidewalks
- Reduced lane width and special paving to help reduce vehicle speeds
- Increased shared space atmosphere; continuous and accessible, extension of park

#### **Trade-offs**

 Decreased space for greening opportunities





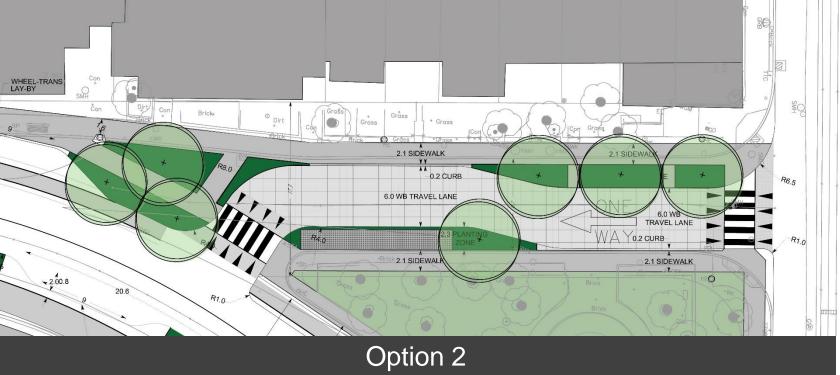
## Proposed | Anniversary Park Slip Lane – Option 2

#### **Opportunities**

- Reduce perceived lane width with specialized paving
- Increased safety through raised crosswalks and alignment
- Increased space for planting opportunities

#### Trade-offs

- 50mm curbs are more easily mountable than typical 150mm curbs
- Decreased pedestrian flexibility to access park



50mm curbs and planted boulevards



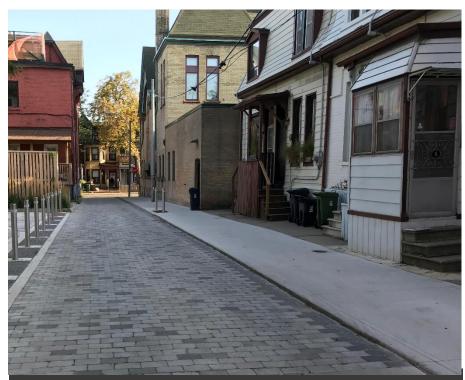
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### **Proposed | Precedent Photos**





Option 1 Mixed-Use Shared Street (Flush Street) on Market Street



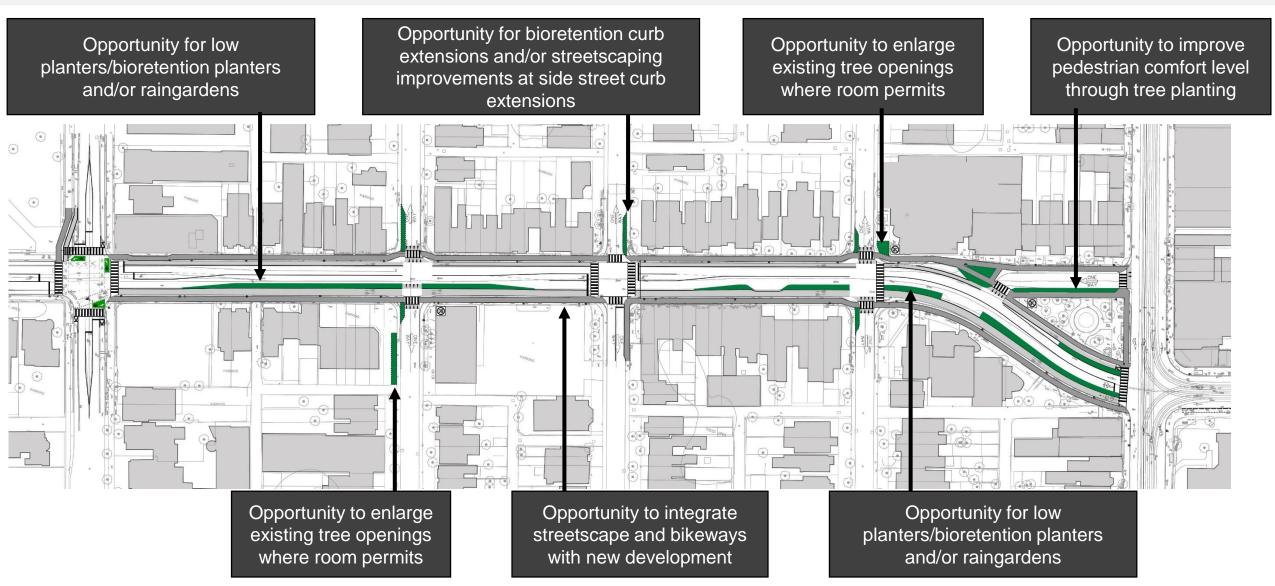
Option 2 50mm curb (shallow curb) on Glasgow Street



## Design Proposal | Green Infrastructure



## **Design Proposal | Green Infrastructure Opportunities**



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### **Green Infrastructure**





#### Permeable Pavers



#### **Bioretention Planters**



#### Raingardens





## Design Proposal | Parliament St to Blackburn St



## Parliament St to Blackburn St / St Matthews Rd



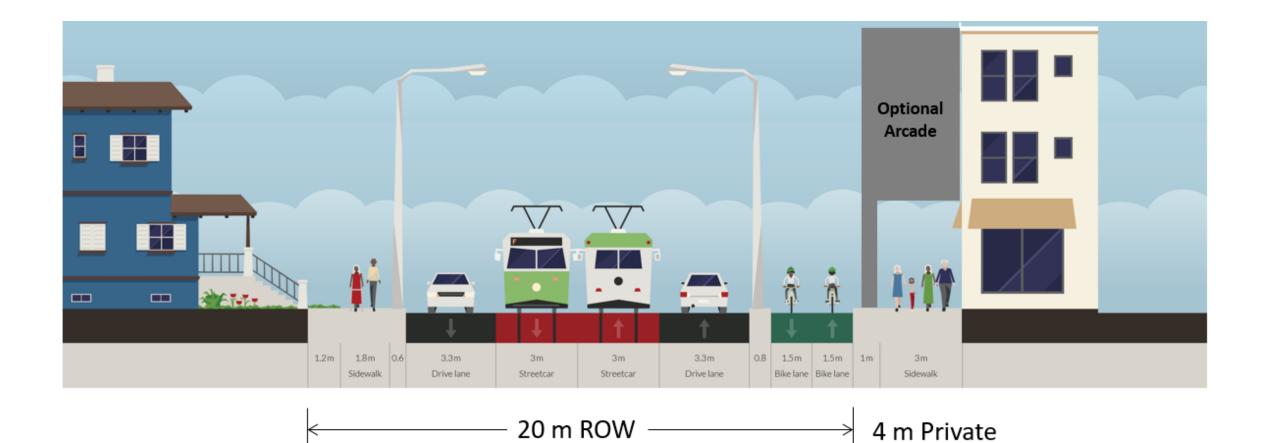
DEVELOPMENTS ALONG GERRARD STREET

FUTURE REDEVELOPMENT AND CONNECTION THROUGH REGENT PARK



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## **Design Proposal | Parliament St to Blackburn St**



\* section view for reference only and is subject to change through development approvals process



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# Project Coordination and Next Steps



## How are Decisions Made?



#### **Public Inputs:**

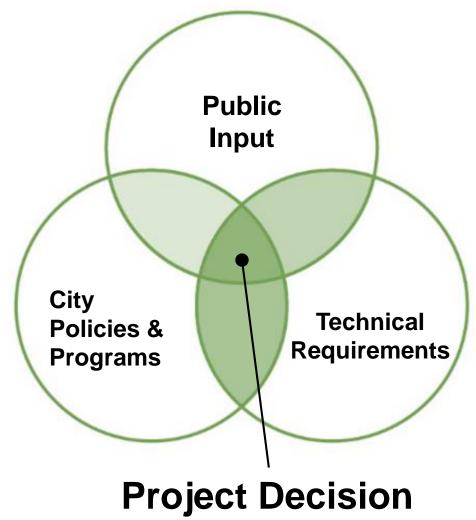
• Share community expertise and advise of concerns, opportunities and priorities through lived experience

#### **City Policies and Programs:**

 Ensures that the City's Accessibility Design Guidelines, Climate Action Strategy and other Council directives are included

#### **Technical Requirements:**

- Infrastructure Requirements (State of Good Repair)
- Universal Design
- Construction Standards





## **Coordinating Works in the Neighbourhood**

- BIA Coordination Master Plan
- Parks Forestry & Recreation Coordination Ongoing coordination with Design and Operations Staff on Allan Gardens and Anniversary Park
- City Planning/Development Coordination
  - 227 Gerrard St East (The Beer Store)
  - 307 Sherbourne St (southeast corner of Sherbourne St and Gerrard St E)
  - 365 Parliament St (Regent Park Block 1)
- Parliament Street Public Library Coordination



Parliament Street Public Library Future plan under development



## **Next Steps**

- May, 17 2022 Public Consultation (Virtual Meeting)
- July, 2022 Report to Infrastructure and Environment Committee and City Council; including opportunity for public deputations



#### **PROJECT WEBPAGE**

Learn more about the project and complete the survey

www.Toronto.ca/gerrardeast

**CONTACT US** 

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact:

Dominic Cobran, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator Dominic.Cobran@toronto.ca 416-338-2986

