

Proposed Upgrades to Existing Bicycle Lanes on Birmingham Street (Kipling Ave to Dwight Ave)



Protected bicycle lane on Willowdale Avenue with curbs and bollards

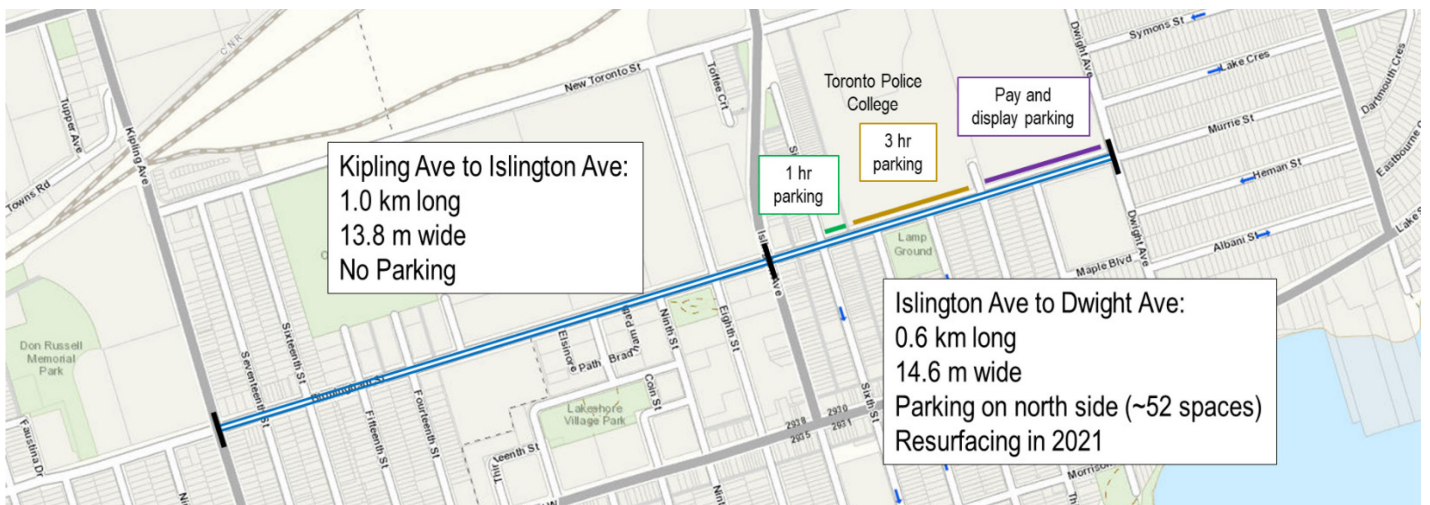
Project Scope

The City of Toronto is proposing to upgrade the existing bicycle lanes on Birmingham Street between Kipling Avenue and Dwight Avenue to protected bicycle lanes (cycle tracks). The project scope includes upgrading the pavement markings to add a painted buffer area between the existing bike lane and the motor vehicle travel lane and installing concrete curbs to provide physical separation between people driving or parking and people cycling.

Why Upgrade?

In 2021, the City of Toronto is resurfacing Birmingham Street between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue as part of the City's state of good repair program. When a road resurfacing is planned, there is an opportunity for road design modifications to increase safety.

A number of criteria are considered to determine the most appropriate bikeway type for a street to be safe and comfortable for people of all ages and abilities. Based on the motor vehicle volume and speed along the corridor, upgrading the bicycle lanes to cycle tracks is warranted.



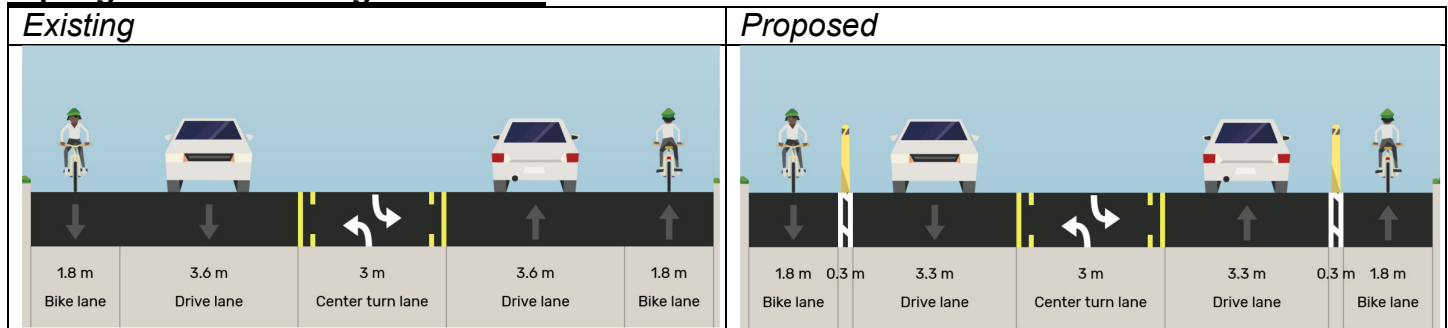
Cycle Tracks Explained

Cycle tracks are lanes for people cycling that are physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. Cycle tracks have been shown to create a safer street for all users including people driving, walking, and cycling.

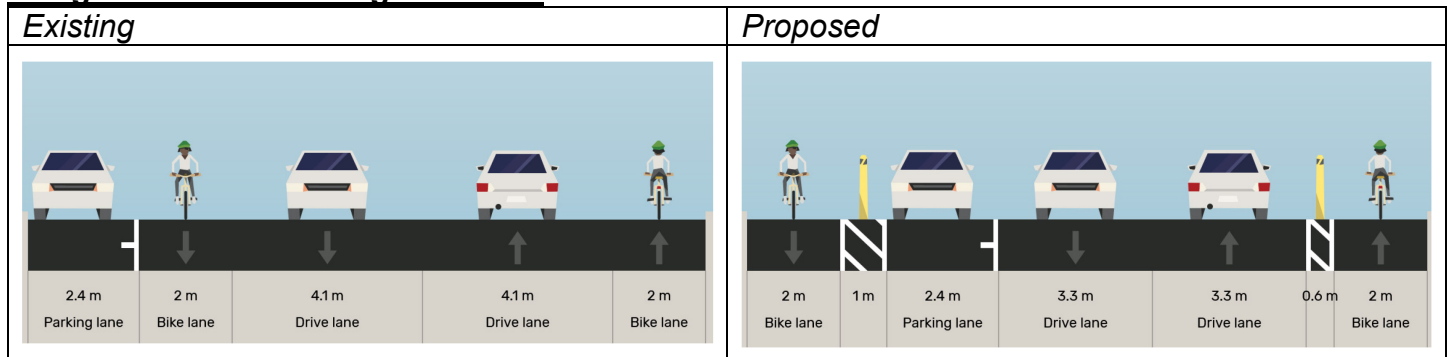
Some cycle tracks, including the proposed cycle tracks on Birmingham Street, have vehicle parking beside the lane. When passengers and drivers are leaving their vehicle, they must first ensure the cycle track is clear. The buffer area next to the parking lane is designed to provide room for people to enter and exit their vehicle.

Road Configuration

Kipling Avenue to Islington Avenue



Islington Avenue to Dwight Avenue



What Does This Project Mean for You?

If you drive or park on Birmingham Street:

All existing motor vehicle lanes would be maintained, but narrowed to encourage greater compliance with the existing speed limit. The existing parking along the north side between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue would be shifted away from the curb. Approximately five parking spaces would be removed to improve sightlines at driveways. Accessible parking or pick-up / drop-off that cannot occur off-street would be accommodated within the parking lane or on side streets.

If you cycle:

Painted buffers, concrete curbs, and bollards would be added to separate the cycle tracks from the motor vehicle lanes. The existing westbound bicycle lane between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue would be relocated against the north curb, between the parking lane and sidewalk.

If you walk:

The concrete curbs proposed to separate the cycle tracks would increase separation between motor vehicle lanes and sidewalks. The road resurfacing between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue will include sidewalk upgrades that reduce crossing distances and encouraging slower turning speeds.



If you live in the neighbourhood:

City services such as fire, emergency medical services, and solid waste pick-up would be maintained as they occur today. Separate snow clearing would occur for sidewalks, cycle tracks, and roadway.

Next Steps

We invite you to call or email us to discuss any questions, concerns or feedback by February 19, 2021. The proposed changes will be considered by City Council at the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on March 23, 2020. Details on the upcoming road resurfacing (e.g., construction dates and detours) will be provided in future notices.

Provide your feedback and questions by February 19, 2021:

Points of Contact	Contact Information
Website	Toronto.ca/Birmingham
Email	 cycling@toronto.ca
Tel	 416-392-1739

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Manager, Public Consultation Unit, Tracy Manolakakis at 416-392-2990.

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