

November 23, 2023





## Huntingwood Drive Road Rehabilitation and Bike Lane Improvements




Contract: 23ECS-RD-08MR

### Project Details

The City of Toronto has begun the rehabilitation of Huntingwood Drive from Pharmacy Avenue to Kennedy Road. As part of the rehabilitation, the existing cycle tracks will be improved with new concrete medians and planters, where feasible.

This project is part of the Council-approved 2023-2024 Capital Works Program to review aging City roads, bikeways and sidewalks for current and future needs.

	<p><b>Decision Background</b></p> <p>In 2020, bicycle lanes were installed on Huntingwood Drive as one of the seven ActiveTO temporary bikeways implemented under the City's COVID response program. This initiative aimed to create secure and pleasant cycling connections to trails and greenspaces, promoting mental and physical well-being. In 2021, Council made the decision to make the Huntingwood Drive cycle tracks permanent.</p> <p>In Toronto, road rehabilitation occurs only once every 25-100 years. The current roadwork on Huntingwood Drive presents a rare, once-in-a-generation chance to implement changes that enhance operations and safety for all road users. The public meeting held in May 2022 and associated surveys were not intended as a voting process, but rather to present and gather feedback on three proposed options to upgrade the bike lanes. The decision to implement these improvements was guided by considerations of public input, City policy guidelines, and technical requirements.</p>
	<p><b>Design &amp; Material Choice</b></p> <p>The choice of materials for cycle track separation is typically influenced by the nature of the roadway work and the opportunity to provide more permanent medians. The goal is to establish a clear separation between motor vehicle lanes and cycle tracks to enhance safety. The various separation methods all share the common goal of preventing motor vehicles from entering the cycle track when prohibited, to ensure the safety of people cycling, whether due to passing turning vehicles or other reasons. Striking a balance between traffic flow and the safety of people cycling is crucial, and the chosen design aims to address both concerns.</p> <p>On Huntingwood Drive, permanent concrete and planted medians are being installed. The size and distance between the concrete medians and driveways has been carefully planned, considering multiple factors such as vehicle turning movements, driveway width, existing lane configuration, and on-street parking.</p> <p>Planted medians between the motor vehicle lane and cycle track will also absorb stormwater, reducing reliance on the City's stormwater underground system.</p>
	<p><b>Need for Increased Cycling Lanes</b></p> <p>Toronto builds bikeways to improve road safety for all users, including those who do not cycle. New bikeways help to reduce speeding and provide a buffer between pedestrians and motor vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Expanding the cycling network also aligns with other city policy objectives, such as <a href="#">TransformTO</a>, which aims for 75% of all school and work trips under 5 km by walking, cycling and transit by 2030, and the <a href="#">Vision Zero Road Safety Plan</a>, which strives to reduce traffic-related deaths and injuries to zero by prioritizing the safety of our most vulnerable road users.</p> <p>Cycling on sidewalks is prohibited in Toronto for individuals aged 14 and older, as sidewalks are designated for pedestrians and those using mobility aids. The implementation of on-street cycle tracks is aimed at establishing safe cycling spaces while keeping sidewalks unobstructed for pedestrians.</p>
	<p><b>On-street Parking</b></p> <p>The new design on Huntingwood Drive maintains almost all existing on-street parking. Only four parking spaces were reduced along Bridlewood Park to accommodate park access for maintenance vehicles and for the relocation of the TTC stop near Killkenny Drive to comply</p>

	<p>with new No Stopping standards at PXOs. Initially, along Bridlewood Park there were 17 parking spaces, but this has been reduced to 13.</p>
	<p><b>TTC Bus Stops</b></p> <p>TTC conducted a comprehensive review of Huntingwood Drive between Pharmacy Avenue and Kennedy Road, aiming to enhance pedestrian safety by placing bus stops as close as possible to traffic signals and pedestrian crossover crossings, and away from challenging curvatures. The TTC bus stop adjustments will bring stops closer to community landmarks, aligning with technical guidelines to minimize conflicts among pedestrians, people cycling, and motorists.</p> <p>Notable changes include the relocation of stops at Batterswood Drive, Bridlewood Boulevard, Fluellen Drive, and the south side between Harfleur Road and Colinayre Crescent.</p> <p>These adjustments optimize sightlines between motorists and pedestrians accessing bus stops. For instance, stops at Davisbrook Boulevard and Harfleur Road will be moved to new locations, and a new bus stop will be introduced at the southwest corner of Colinayre Crescent, featuring a small accessible landing designed to preserve a mature tree. These changes reflect TTC's commitment to enhancing safety, efficiency, and accessibility in transit services for the community.</p>
	<p><b>City Services Impacts</b></p> <p>During the project's design phase, consultations were conducted with the City of Toronto's Operations and Maintenance, Solid Waste, and emergency services teams. Advice from these units favored the use of concrete medians over narrow separation, a design choice that permits adjustable width to accommodate all servicing requirements, including garbage collection.</p> <p>The City will be using smaller plow equipment for snow removal within the cycle tracks. Residents are advised to place garbage bins in the boulevard for manual pick up, as was done previous. This information was addressed during the public consultation session and is detailed on Page 2 of the <a href="#">Huntingwood Drive Road Updates</a> report.</p>
	<p><b>Safety Considerations</b></p> <p>Cycle tracks have been implemented in various locations across the city and have shown to improve safety for all road users. Certain features of the Huntingwood Drive design have been successfully implemented in other areas, and is expected to yield similar safety benefits.</p>

## Need More Information?

If you have questions about this project, please contact us:

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Thank you for your patience. Building a great city takes time. Better infrastructure for all of us is worth the wait.