May 27, 2024

Mimico Creek Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Study

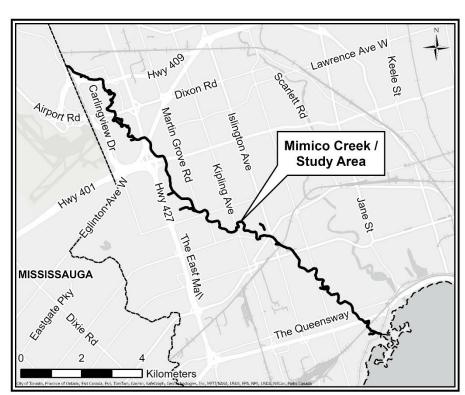
The City of Toronto is carrying out a study to identify sewer and watermain infrastructure within Mimico Creek that is at risk of damage due to erosion impacts as a result of high flows from storms and snow melt.

This study looks at how the City's sewer and watermain infrastructure can be protected within the creek using recommended solutions to help correct existing impacts and reduce or prevent future impact. This will ensure the City's infrastructure continues to operate and service residents and businesses. The solutions will be part of a Mimico Creek Geomorphic Systems Master Plan (GSMP) for the creek that is implemented over a multi-year period.

Study Area

The study area covers the 19 km length of Mimico Creek in Toronto from Highway 427 near Disco Road and Attwell Drive to where it meets Lake Ontario.

The public is invited to learn more about the study, ask questions and provide feedback on potential impacts of the recommended solutions.



Learn More



View study information on the webpage including the presentation deck and related information.

toronto.ca/MimicoCreek

Attend the Virtual Event



Wednesday June 12, 2024 6 to 8 p.m.

Join online or by phone. See page 2 for details.

Provide Feedback



Complete an online survey or request a printed copy. Submit comments by email, mail or phone.

Comment deadline: Friday June 28, 2024

Study Details

The geomorphology of a creek examines how natural and human factors have shaped its form and function over time. Erosion can affect the path a creek follows (form) and the aquatic and terrestrial habitats the stream supports (function). Erosion results in gradual changes to the form and function of the creek and creek bed. Significant changes to water levels during storms have contributed to increased erosion, which poses risks to the City's sewer and watermain infrastructure located in or adjacent to the creek.

Impacts from erosion can be corrected and further prevented through natural channel design by reconstructing the bed and bank of a stream with natural rock and/or vegetation, which allows for a new stable path for the creek.

The following alternative solutions for natural channel design were evaluated for the water infrastructure sites at risk of erosion in the study area:

Alternative 1: Do nothing (no planned interventions, only ongoing monitoring)

Alternative 2: Improvements through local works less than 100 metres

Alternative 3: Improvements to a segment of the creek greater than 100 metres

Public Consultation

Study Recommendations

Based on a risk assessment of 203 infrastructure sites along Mimico Creek, 25 priority sites were identified as being at high risk of damage from erosion.

Following a detailed evaluation of the alternative solutions, the City is recommending 14 projects to stabilize the creek bed and banks through natural channel design. Five projects are recommended for work in a segment of the creek less than 100 metres (Alternative 2) and nine projects are recommended for work in a segment of the creek greater than 100 metres (Alternative 3).

The 14 projects were assigned priority levels for implementation. Exposed sanitary sewers are the highest priority projects as they pose greater negative impacts if broken as compared to broken storm sewer outfalls or watermains.

- Nine projects are high-priority
- Three projects are medium-priority
- Two projects are low-priority

Future implementation of the recommended projects require:

- Tree and vegetation removal, to be followed by habitat restoration and replanting with native trees and shrubs.
- Possible park trail closures to accommodate construction activities. Details will be confirmed as part of a future design phase after the study.
- Some work to occur on private property. Owners of properties affected by the projects have been notified.

Construction impacts will be communicated prior to project implementation.

Process

The study is following the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment study process for Master Plans, which is an approved planning process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act and includes opportunities for public input.

Identify problems and primary causes

Collect data, perform fieldwork and examine existing and future conditions

Develop, evaluate and recommend solutions



Complete study report and make available for public review

Prioritize infrastructure protection projects

Next Steps

A Master Plan report will be prepared with the final study recommendations and posted on the project webpage for a 30-day public comment period.

Following a successful comment period, the recommended solutions will be included in the City's Stream Restoration and Erosion Control Program and implementation will be prioritized across all GSMPs city-wide.

How to Join the Virtual Event

Join by computer, smartphone or tablet



Visit the webpage and register: www.toronto.ca/MimicoCreek

Join by phone (audio only)



Dial: 416-915-6530 Access Code: 2631 289 7795 Attendee ID: 6464 2627

If you have a specific accessibility need or require accommodation, please contact us.

More Information

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Information will be collected 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.