

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD



► Causes of Traffic Congestion – Why is this an Issue?

Toronto's Traffic Congestion

The City of Toronto is facing unprecedented traffic congestion, driven by one of its most intense periods of both public and private construction. As one of the busiest cities in North America for construction, Toronto is undergoing significant development, including increased private development, major infrastructure renewal, and the expansion of higher-order transit. Together with changes in travel patterns and population growth, these factors have contributed to increased congestion on Toronto's streets, further straining the city's traffic infrastructure.

A 2023 [study by INRIX](#) ranks Toronto as the 17th most congested city in the world, with the average driver in the city facing 63 hours of traffic delays annually.

City's Response to Congestion

The City of Toronto is actively addressing these challenges through a range of traffic management strategies including new technical processes and advanced management techniques, with the goal of improving traffic flow and mobility for all road users. These strategies were first outlined in the [Congestion Management Plan \(CMP\)](#), adopted by [City Council in 2013](#), and updated in [2015 for the period 2016-2020](#). In October 2024, City Council adopted the [Congestion Management Plan 2023-2026 Interim Action Plan](#) to address the growing demands of the city's traffic environment.

The City's strategies for tackling congestion and addressing current challenges include:

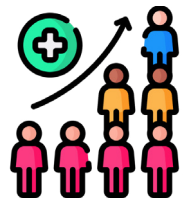
- Leveraging technology to keep everyone moving efficiently and safely
- Helping transit move faster and reliably
- Managing intersections with on-the-ground traffic management and enforcement
- Enhancing traffic management for major special events
- Active planning and coordination of City-wide construction projects

The Congestion Management Dashboard reports on the progress and range of strategies the City is employing to manage congestion and keep traffic flowing.

Toronto is the fastest growing and third largest city in North America.



3.026 million
[people live in Toronto as of 2023](#)



125,756
Toronto's population growth in just one year
By 2066, Toronto's population is anticipated to double



221
[cranes in Toronto in 2024, the most in all of North America](#)

Residential and mixed-use projects account for over 80% of the total cranes

Toronto ranks 12 out of the **100 most livable cities in the world.**

1 London UK	84.6
2 New York USA	83.0
3 Paris France	79.7
4 Los Angeles USA	78.6
5 Sydney Australia	77.9
6 Singapore Singapore	77.5
7 Tokyo Japan	77.0
8 San Francisco USA	76.3
9 Dubai UAE	75.8
10 Amsterdam Netherlands	75.7
11 Miami USA	73.6
12 Toronto Canada	73.3
13 Barcelona Spain	73.2
14 Rome Italy	72.5
15 Chicago USA	72.2

SOURCE: [The Global Liveability Index 2024](#)

► Multi-Modal Demands on the Transportation Network



5,600 km

of streets in Toronto, a figure that has remained unchanged for decades



736 million

transit boardings on the TTC in 2023, compared to 525 million rides in 2019

SOURCE: [ttc.ca](https://www.ttc.ca)



61.8 million

number of trips starting or ending in Toronto using ride hailing in 2023



26 million

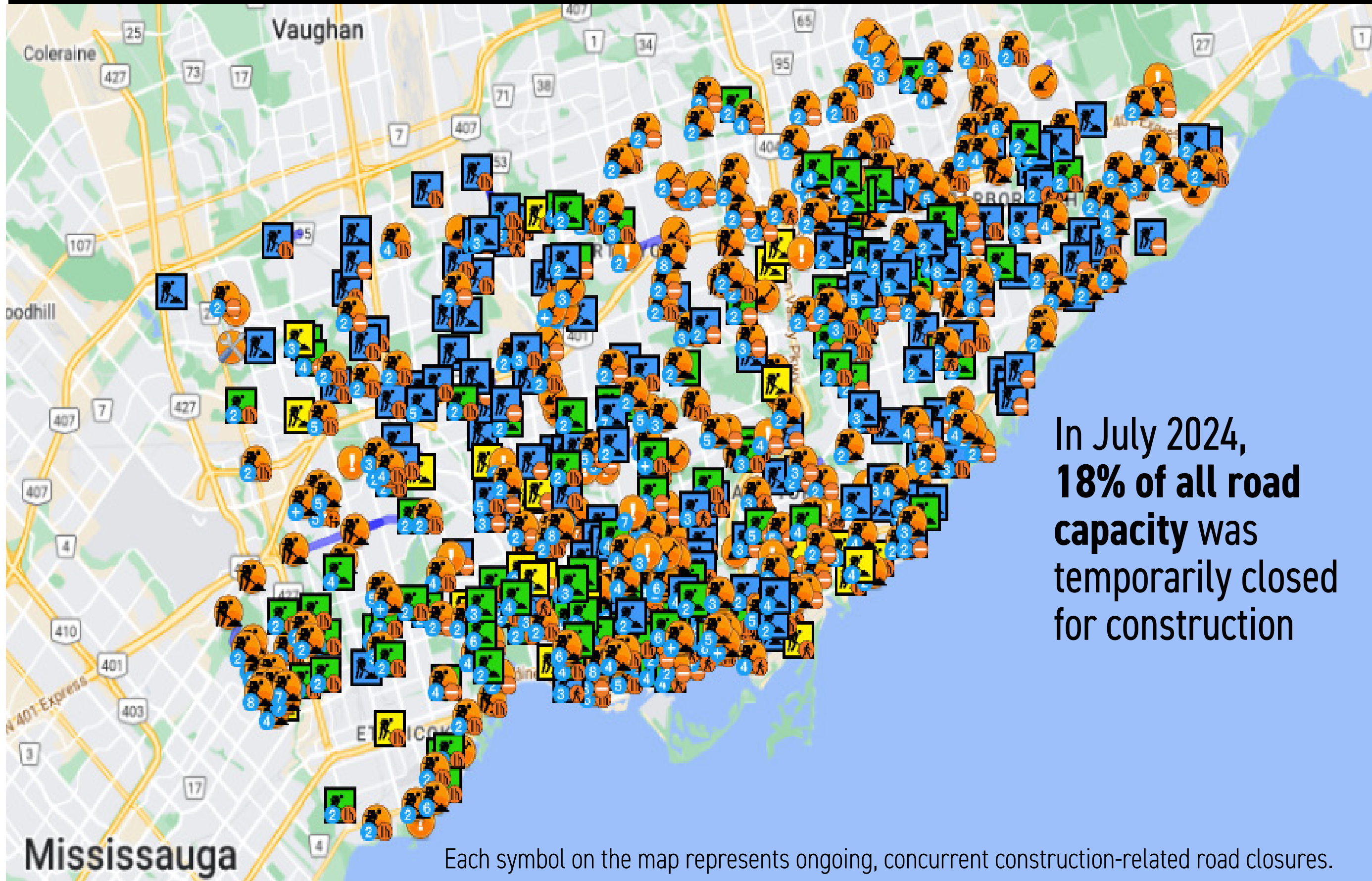
GO transit trips in 2023, including GO Bus, GO Train, and UP Express



6.9 million

Bike Share rides in 2024, 5.7 million rides in 2023

► City of Toronto Remains Busiest Construction City in North America



In July 2024,
18% of all road capacity was temporarily closed for construction

5,600 km

Total road area Toronto

18%

1,008 km

Road occupied by construction



\$513 million

was spent in 2023 on capital investments to improve our roads and roads related infrastructure



43,688

housing developments in 2023, adding to the overall construction impacts on roads

SOURCE: cmhc-schl.gc.ca

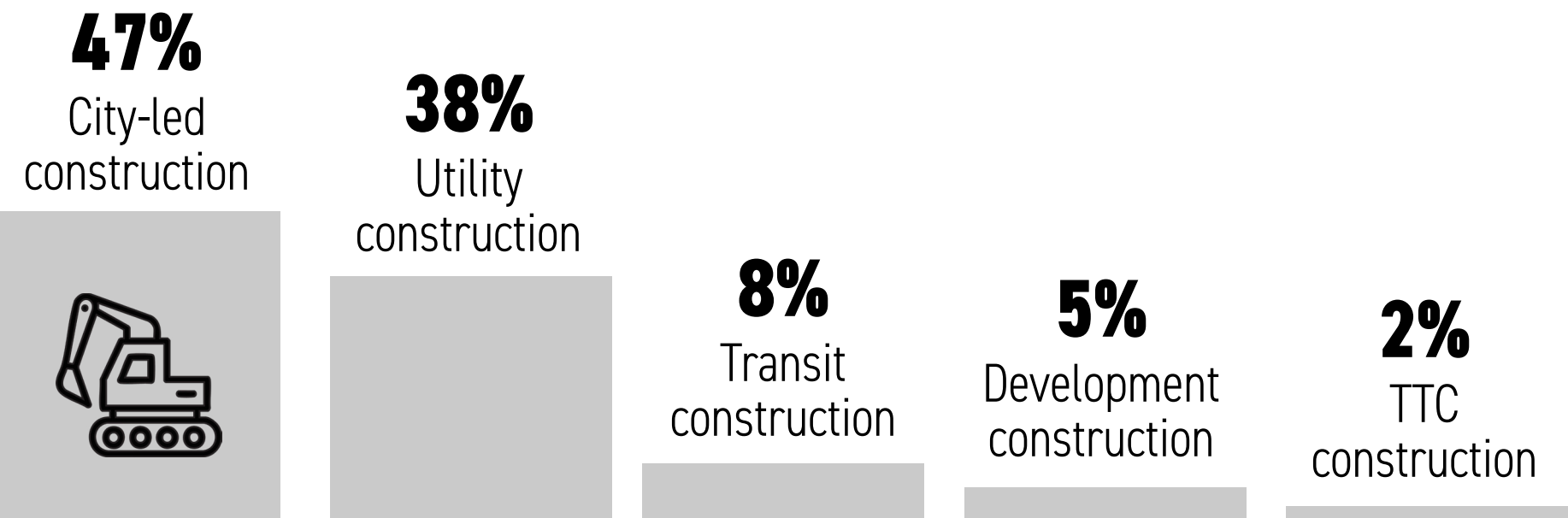
> Who Is Occupying the Roads?

The many construction projects across the city— including essential road, bridge, and watermain renewals and new developments— are taking vital road space making it more difficult to move around.



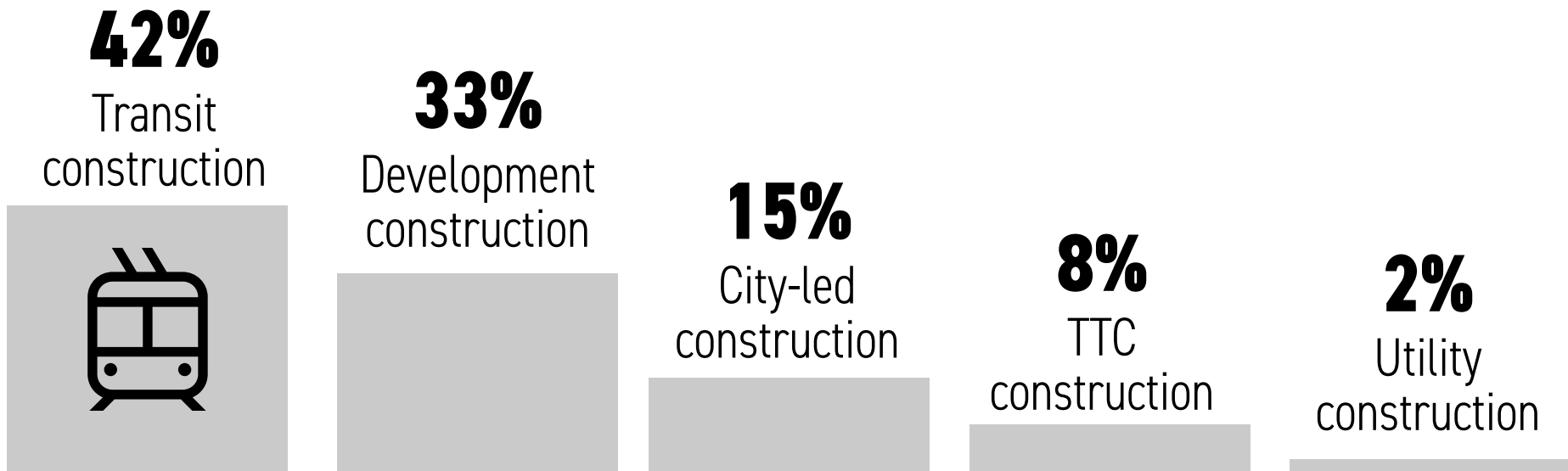
Who is on the right-of-way?

Construction-related road closures are the biggest contributor to Toronto's traffic congestion.



Whose work takes the most time?

It is important to consider who is on the right-of-way and for how long as this has an impact on Toronto's traffic congestion long-term.

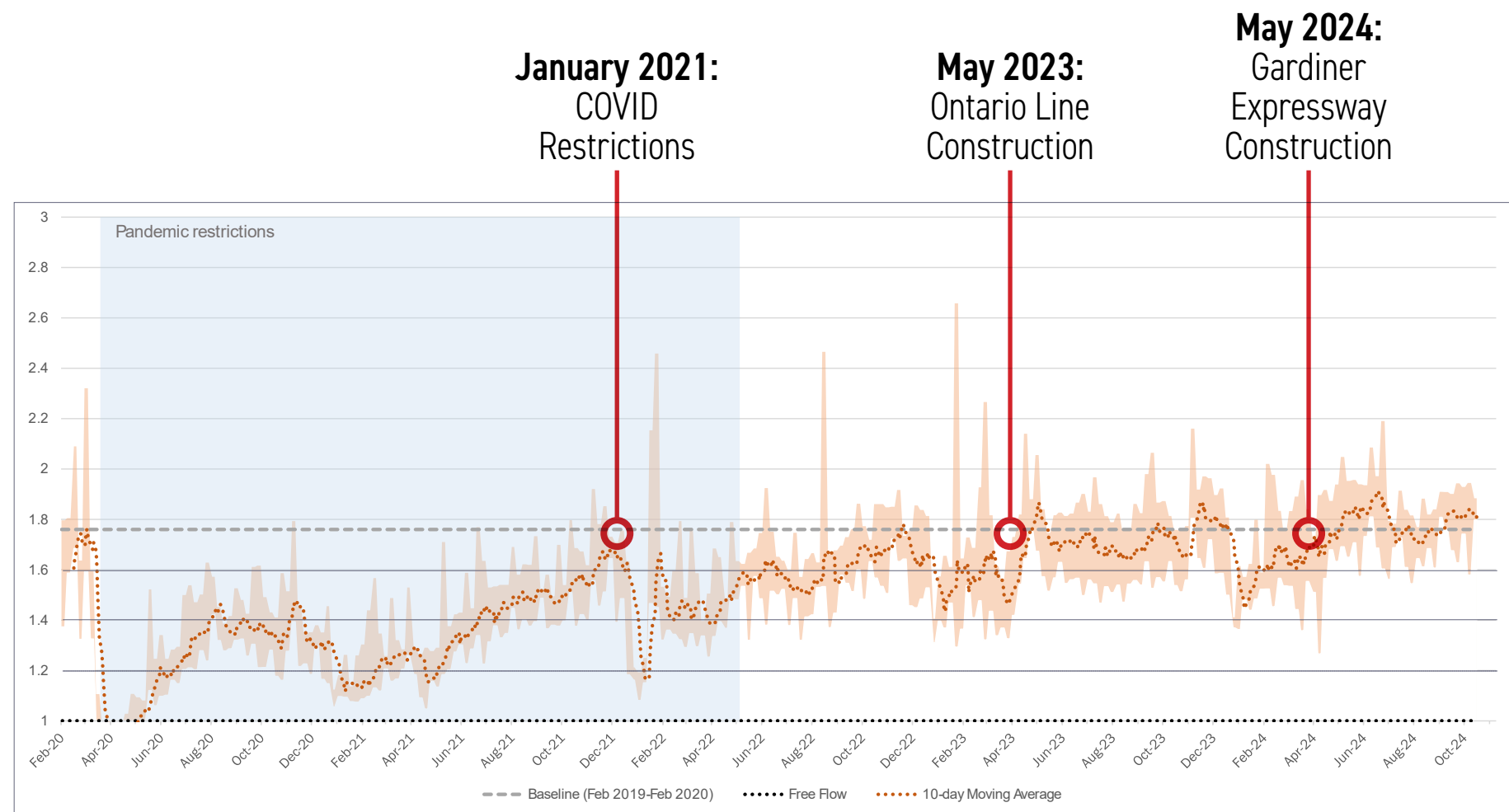


* data presented dated from August 2024.

► How Do We Track Congestion?

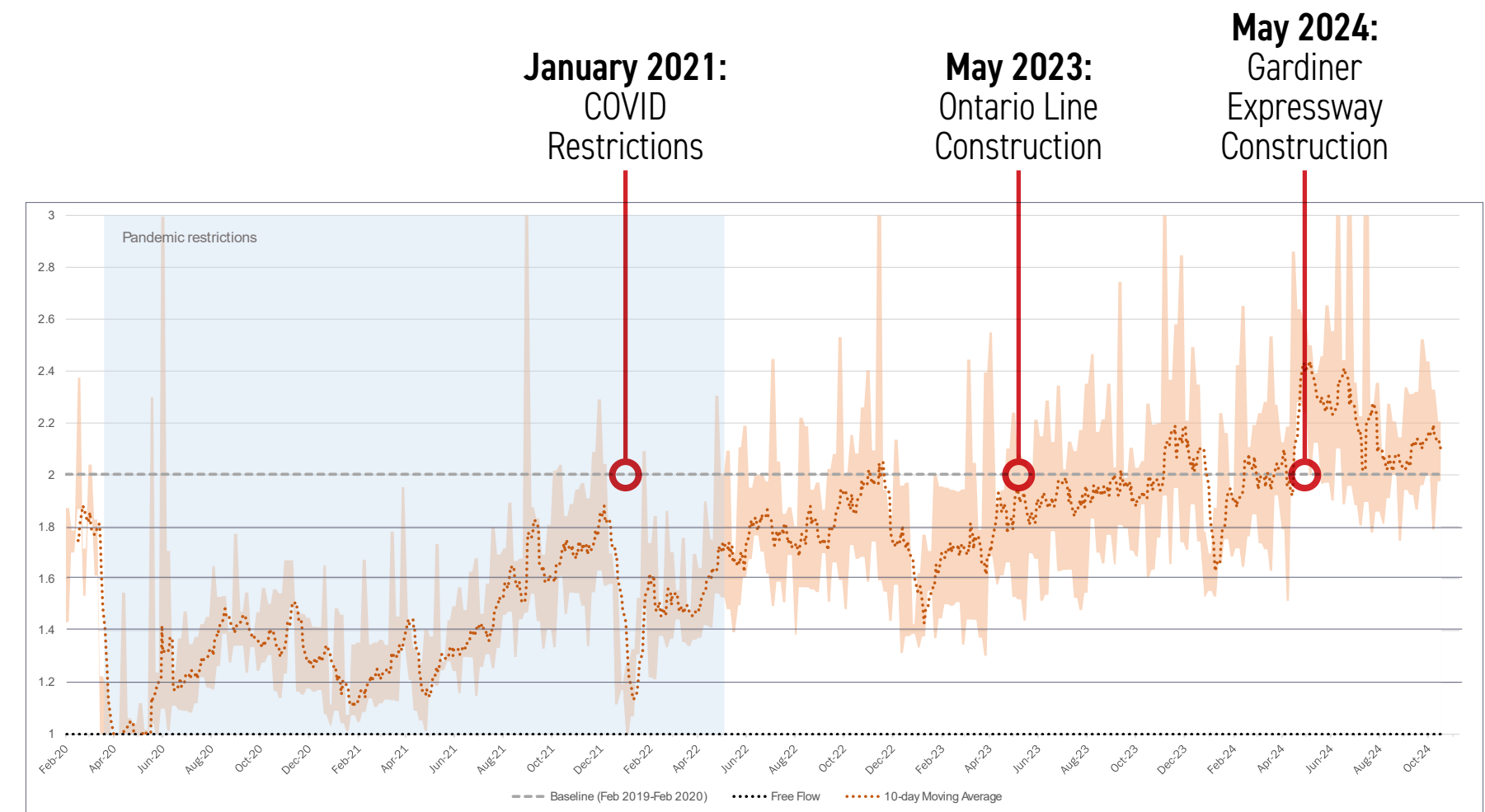
Third party navigation data is used to track changing traffic congestion levels within the City of Toronto.

One key metric the City tracks is the Travel Time Index, which compares actual travel times against free flow travel times (e.g. travel times on roads when there are low traffic volumes such as overnight).



City-wide PM Peak Travel Time Index

City-wide congestion levels in the PM peak hour (5-6 PM) have recovered to approximately the same as pre-pandemic levels



Downtown PM Peak Travel Time Index

Downtown congestion levels have surpassed pre-pandemic levels largely due to the significant amount of construction, special events, and population growth

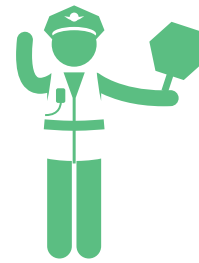
► Toronto has a Congestion Management Plan that Focuses on 5 Big Moves



**Leveraging
Technology to
Keep Everyone
Moving
Efficiently and
Safely**



**Helping
Transit Move
Faster and
Reliably**



**Managing
Intersections
with On-the-
Ground Traffic
Management
and Enforcement**



**Enhancing
Traffic
Management
for Major
Special
Events**



**Active
Planning and
Coordination
of City-wide
Construction
Projects**

Leveraging Technology to Keep Everyone Moving Efficiently and Safely



GOAL: Reducing Delays and Gathering Data



Remote Control Upgrades

Traffic signals are controlled with a wireless remote control device to allow for real-time signal change

346

upgraded controllers total City-wide, to date



Smart Traffic Signals

Install smart signals to modify red/green signal time based on real-time traffic patterns

36

installed in 2024

202

total City-wide, to date



Left-Turn Signals

Install left-turn arrows at intersections to minimize delay for through traffic

5

installed in 2024

940

total City-wide, to date



Intelligent Intersections

Intelligent intersections leverage technology to reduce delays at intersections while improving safety for all road users

17

installed in 2024

242

total City-wide, to date



CCTV Camera Locations

CCTVs to monitor congestion, and emergencies 24/7

7

installed in 2024

347

total City-wide, to date



Helping Transit Move Faster and Reliably



GOAL: Implement RapidTO to Move Transit Faster and More Reliably



Priority Bus Lanes

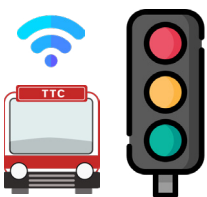
Install priority bus lanes, including contra-flow bus lanes, curbside bus lanes, HOV lanes, offset bus lanes and transit malls

1.25km

installed in 2024

35km

total City-wide, to date, measured from centerline



Transit Signal Priority Locations

Transit signal priority, using new technology that leverages Artificial Intelligence to optimize traffic signals

83

installed in 2024

440

total City-wide, to date



Transit Queue Jump Lanes

Install dedicated lanes that allow TTC to bypass traffic queues through signalized intersections

~1km

length installed in 2024

~9.3km

total length installed, City-wide, to date



Managing Intersections with On-the-Ground Traffic Management and Enforcement



GOAL: Improving Traffic Flow Through Intersections



Don't Block the Box

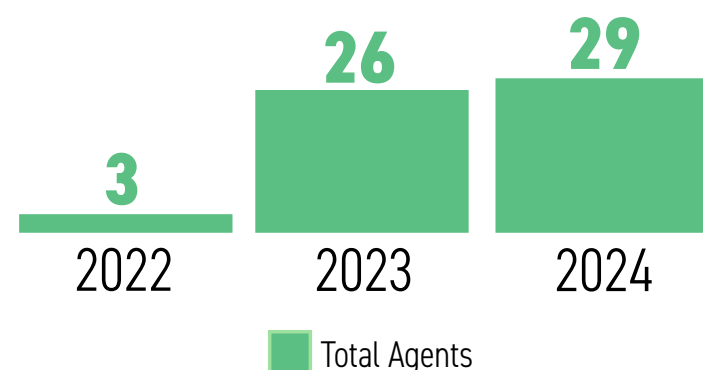
In 2024, 'Blocking the Box' fines increased from:

\$90 to \$450, and from
\$120 to \$500 in
Community Safety Zones

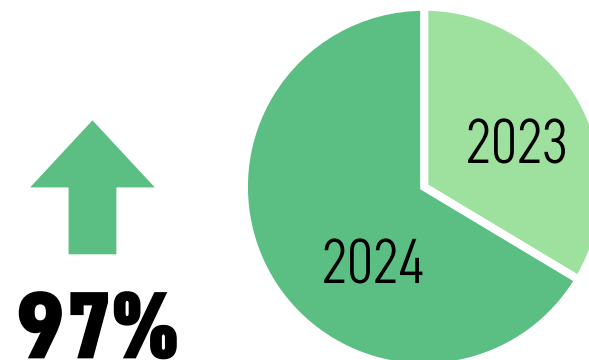


Total Traffic Agents

The City has Traffic Agents to improve safety and help manage congestion



Traffic Agent Management Hours



97%

increase in hours, with 20,755 hours dedicated to managing traffic flow in 2024, compared to 10,503 hours in 2023

Traffic Agents at Key Intersections

When Traffic Agents were present at the King/Spadina intersection, transit travel times were reduced from 65 to 21 minutes - a saving of 44 minutes

Without

Traffic Agents

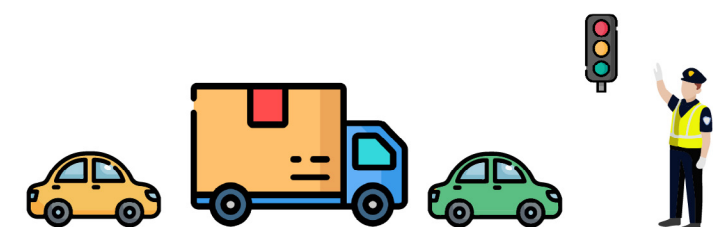


44 - 65

minute travel time

With

Traffic Agents



17 - 21

minute travel time



Enhancing Traffic Management for Major Special Events



750,000

Attendees at Do West Festival and Portugal Day Parade



240,000

Attendees at Taylor Swift Concerts



200,000

Attendees at Pride Parade Toronto



150,000

Attendees at Honda Indy



65,000

Attendees at Toronto International Dragon Boat Festival



10,000

Attendees at Bike for Brain Health

GOAL: Support the Safe and Efficient Movement of People Attending Special Events



Special Event Permits

350+ *

permits issued in 2024

*includes temporary road closures for signature events on major roadways, BIA festivals, charity runs, community block events, sidewalk sales and curb lane closures



Signal Timing Adjustments for Special Events

1,757

adjustments made in 2024 to help clear traffic quickly after events



Active Traffic Operations Centre Hours during Special Events

1,665+

additional *staff hours spent in 2024 monitoring special events to improve traffic flow

*does not include Traffic Agent hours

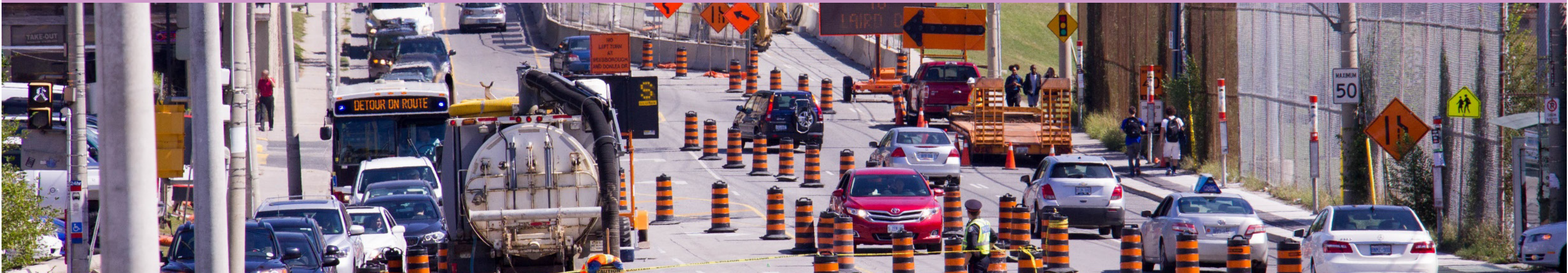
1,000,000

Attendees at Caribbean Carnival





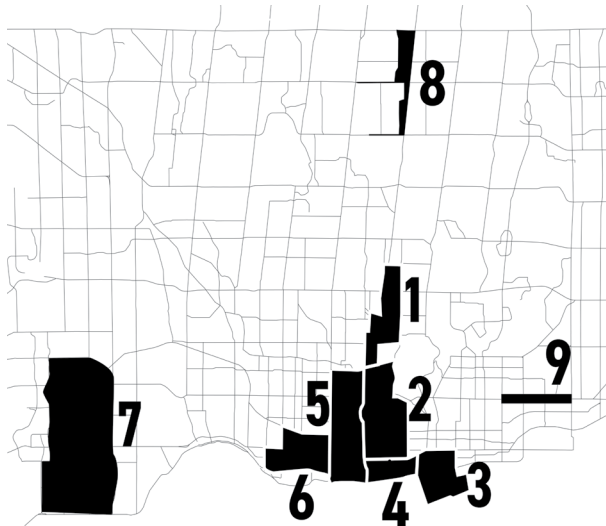
Active Planning and Coordination of City-wide Construction Projects



GOAL: Reduce Impacts of Construction Work Zones On Travel

Construction Hubs

Construction Hubs focus on improving road safety, ensuring accessibility, enforcing compliance and managing road use in areas with high concentrations of construction activity, all of which help the flow of traffic



HUB 1	Yonge & Eglinton	2019
HUB 2	Downtown	2022
HUB 3	East Harbour	2022
HUB 4	Lake Shore East	2022
HUB 5	Liberty Village	2022
HUB 6	Lake Shore West	2022
HUB 7	Six Points	2024
HUB 8	Willowdale	2024
HUB 9	Danforth	2024

RoDARS

The Road Disruption Activity Reporting System [\[RoDARS\]](#) evaluates construction requests, manages traffic impacts, and implements a variety of congestion mitigation strategies to reduce the impact of construction on traffic congestion

Year	Number of RoDARS Requests
2021	9,764
2022	12,218
2023	12,073
2024 (as of Dec. 18)	11,513
TOTAL	45,568

18% ↑
increase in RoDARS requests from 2021 to 2024