March 3, 2025

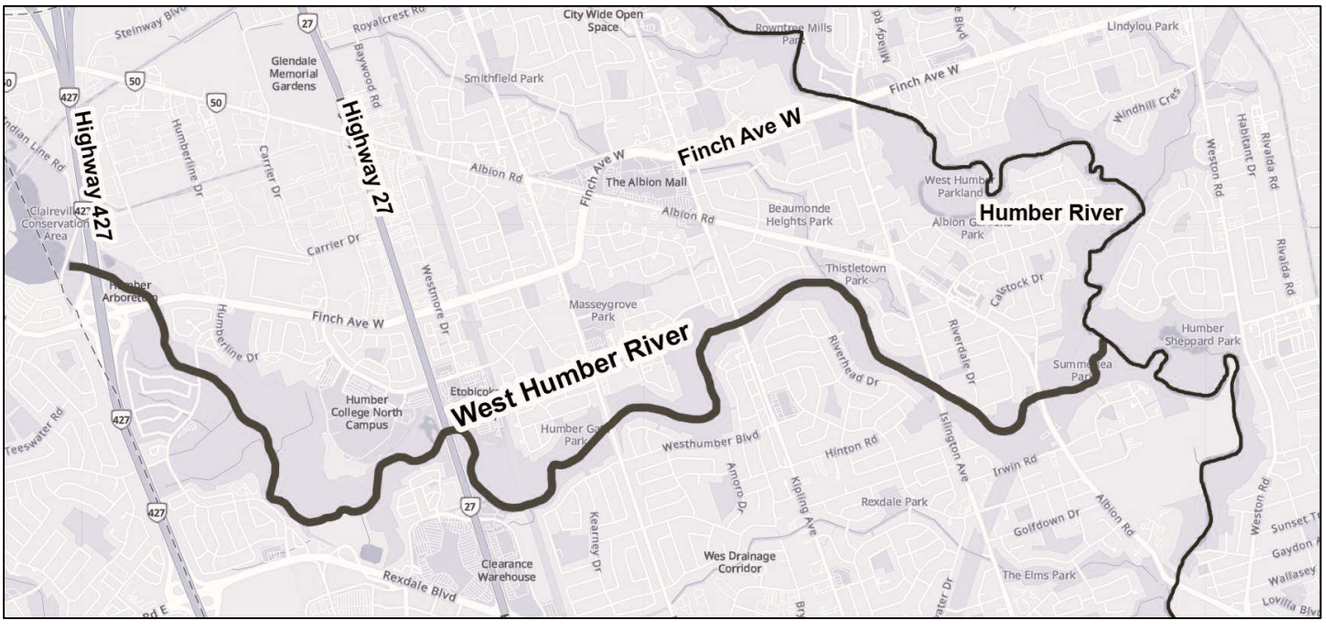
West Humber River Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Study

The City of Toronto is carrying out a study to identify City water and sewer infrastructure within the West Humber River that is at risk of damage as a result of erosion caused by high flows from storms and snow melt.

The study will identify solutions to stabilize the riverbed and banks where infrastructure is at risk to ensures the City's water and sewer infrastructure can continue to operate and service residents and businesses. The solutions will be part of a West Humber River Geomorphic Systems Master Plan (GSMP) that is implemented over a multi-year period.

Study Area

The study area covers the 19 km length of West Humber River 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.

Learn More	Attend the Virtual Public Meeting	Provide Feedback
View study information on the webpage including the meeting presentation and related information. **toronto.ca/westhumberriver**	**March 19, 2025** **6 to 8 p.m.** **Join online or by phone.** **See page 2 for details.**	Complete an online survey or request a printed copy. Submit comments by email, mail or phone. **Comment deadline: April 4, 2025**

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 in a segment of the creek greater than 100 metres

Study Recommendations

The level of erosion risk to the City's sewer and water infrastructure was assessed for 59 water, stormwater and sanitary sewer infrastructure sites near to the river. The assessment evaluated the likelihood of exposure and/or failure at each of the sites.

Based on the risk assessment, alternative solutions for stabilizing the riverbed and banks were evaluated for the 15 sites most at risk. The City is recommending ten projects to stabilize the river and protect water and sewer infrastructure. Seven projects are recommended for local work in a segment of the creek less than 100 metres and three projects are recommended for work in an extended segment of the creek greater than 100 metres.

Recommended projects have been assigned priority levels for implementation. Exposed sanitary sewers are the highest priority as they pose greater negative impacts if broken.

- Three projects are high-priority
- Three projects are medium-priority
- Four projects are low-priority

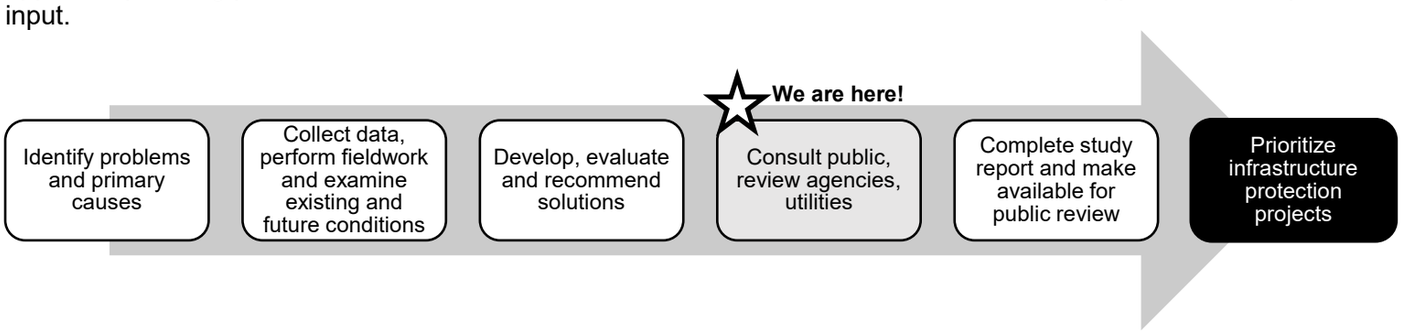
Future implementation of the recommended projects will require:

- Tree and vegetation removal followed by native species replanting. Many of the tree removals include non-native species.
- Re-naturalization areas will be densely planted with a diversity of species to promote a variety of layers in vegetation (ground cover, understory, canopy) and a mixture of fast and slower growing trees.
- A restoration plan will be developed prior to construction as part of a future design phase after the study.

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.



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	**Join by phone** (audio only)
Visit the webpage and register: toronto.ca/westhumberriver	**Dial:** 416-915-6530 **Access Code:** 2631 924 0081 **Attendee ID:** 4862 3774
If you require disability-related accommodation to participate, please contact us one week before the meeting.	

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.

ਆਪਣੀ ਖੁਦ ਦੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਲਈ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 311 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।