

Rowanwood Transmission Watermain Construction

Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025

Meeting Type: Virtual

Start time: 6:30 p.m. **End Time:** 8:00 p.m.

Project Overview:

The City of Toronto plans to replace the existing transmission watermain on Rowanwood Avenue from Macpherson Avenue to Wrentham Place. The existing 900mm watermain will be replaced by a larger 1200mm watermain to ensure sufficient water supply to residents. Transmission watermain carry large volumes of water from water treatment plants to pumping stations, reservoirs and tanks; and to the local distribution watermain that then deliver water to your home.

This project is part of the Council-approved 2024 Capital Works Program to renew our aging infrastructure and improve water distribution to meet current and future supply demands.

Meeting Objectives:

Share Information about the upcoming construction and hear from residents about their concerns.

Meeting Overview:

The meeting was facilitated by Steven Ziegler, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator. A presentation was provided by Chris Sandink from EXP Services Inc. followed by an opportunity for participants to ask questions and hear responses from City staff.

Questions & Comments

The following questions and answers were provided during the meeting. All questions have been categorized by topic.

Topic	Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
Tree Impacts	How many trees are being removed? Are you replacing the trees that have been removed by the construction?	<p>As part of the construction, 12 trees will be removed: 7 on Chestnut, 4 on Roxborough, and 1 on Thornwood.</p> <p>The project team carefully designed the construction methods and watermain alignment to minimize tree loss, evaluating multiple alternative alignments during the design phase. Various engineering measures were explored and incorporated into the project to protect as many trees as possible, including trenchless technologies such as tunneling and directional drilling where feasible, adjusting utility placement, and refining excavation limits. These efforts allowed for the preservation of a significant number of trees; however, the loss of these 12 trees could not be avoided.</p>

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		The removals were reviewed and approved by Urban Forestry, and the necessary tree removal permits have been issued. A cash-in-lieu payment was made to Urban Forestry, which will replant trees appropriate for this area. Trees within the construction zone that will not be removed are protected as per the City's Tree Protection Policy.
	Can we request that Chestnut trees to be replaced and planted? This is a heritage area, and the name Chestnut Park was due to all the Chestnut trees	Urban Forestry is in charge of these decisions, but the project team can see if this is something they have considered and whether the heritage character is reviewed for tree selection.
Traffic Management	What can be done to improve car access from side streets to Yonge Street? Crescent, Roxborough and Rowanwood Avenue are backed up by up to 15 or 20 cars some afternoons and we can't turn onto Yonge Street. The lights were put in for pedestrian safety which is critical but light timing does not seem to have been adjusted for side street access traffic flow after the bike lanes were installed.	City staff can take this back to Traffic Management group in Transportation Services and ask them to adjust the signal timings.
	Cluny Drive was just closed between Rowanwood Avenue and Chestnut Park and it appears jobsite office trailers have been placed there. Will this section of the street be closed for the duration of the project?	The office trailers are there temporarily. City staff are currently reviewing alternative locations.
	Has there been consideration given to the traffic effect on Marlborough Ave with no left turns allowed from Macpherson Avenue to Yonge Street? The intersection at Yonge Street /Marlborough and Price Street is already extremely busy and dangerous for cars and pedestrians.	We do not expect impacts to roads that are not Macpherson Avenue. Marlborough Ave will not close due to construction. We can ask Transportation Services to review the larger area, as all signals are connected. Throughout construction, this can be monitored, and if traffic adjustments or changes need to be made, we can do so if needed.

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	Have a haul/truck route been specified for the trucks? Sounds like we need a haul road. Allowing the trucks to go wherever they like will cause issues.	City staff are reviewing the haul route with the contractor.
	What is the plan after the construction is complete with respect to the right-hand turn lane on Macpherson? Will the road remain that way or be narrowed again to allow for the wider sidewalk?	The restoration at the end of the project will return road and sidewalk to its original condition.
	Will there be car access from Pricefield to Mount Pleasant Road via Thornwood or Cluny Street.	Yes, there will be access. The only road closure will be on Rowanwood Ave, west of the intersection at Thornwood. Through traffic will be maintained on Thornwood Drive.
	Are we expecting the widening of Macpherson Avenue and reduction to one right turn lane onto Yonge Street to be full duration of entire project?	It will be required for duration of construction due to tunneling activities. Once the tunnel boring machine is extracted it will be restored to previous condition.
	What signage will be on Avenue Road and Macpherson Avenue discouraging people turning onto Macpherson Avenue?	There will be signage on Macpherson Avenue, at Avenue Road, indicating that Macpherson Avenue will be right turn only onto Yonge Street. Over time people may be discouraged from using it, but the road will not be closed.
	Will pedestrians be able to access Yonge Street east from Macpherson Avenue? Can we get across without having to go back down to Roxborough Street?	Yes, pedestrians will have access to Yonge Street on the east side. Pedestrian access will be maintained in all directions at the Yonge and Macpherson intersection. Construction vehicles will enter and exit from Macpherson Avenue and traffic flag people will be present to assist with vehicle movements.
	Will residents on Macpherson Avenue be trapped in these areas and have considerations been made for local traffic only? The area is already busy with traffic.	No and the project team will continue to monitor the traffic and if anything arises it will be mitigated.

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	When will the traffic management plan that was referred to as incomplete be finalized?	Submissions made by contractor, which could take 2-3 weeks to finalize depending on complexity.
General Construction	Is there going to be art on hoarding as we require developers to do? There's a bylaw that requires this to limit eye sores.	No requirement to put art onto hoarding at this time, but that's something the project team can discuss. <u>Post Meeting Note</u> - There's no requirement in the contract for art on hoarding as it is a relatively short-term project compared to condominium developers.
	Will work still be proceeding on Saturdays and work hours will be 7-7 or later?	Work will take place between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. Weekend work could take place if required, but it is not anticipated at this time.
	Will the contractors be required to follow noise bylaw?	All City of Toronto construction projects are exempt from the noise bylaw ; however, we can confirm that any noisy work will be limited to between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. Sound and vibration monitors will be in place within the work zone to track and assess noise levels.
	Rat problems due to construction are starting to become a problem in the neighbourhood. Are any pest control measures proposed?	Not something discussed previously or has come up before. We can take this back and review internally.
	For the homes that are within 30 meters of tunneling shafts, will vibration monitoring be installed?	Vibration monitoring will occur along the watermain alignment. It will not be installed on private properties. The vibration monitoring will be along the alignment, so it is as accurate as possible.
	How do I obtain pictures or the pre-inspection survey of my property from OZA inspections?	A request can be made to the Field Ambassador.
Parking	Where will construction workers park? The parking lot at the old Staples building is full before 7 am with construction workers trucks already working in the area.	The contractor will be instructed not to use on-street parking for their staff personal vehicles, but to use paid parking available in the neighbourhood. Staff will also encourage carpooling to reduce the number of personal vehicles.

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Water Impacts	How long will the water shut offs last and how will we know about them?	The length of water shut off will depend based on the work. Notices will be provided to residents 48hrs prior to any planned water outage.
Water study	Watermain is large, in calculating the water demand, have the nearly 30 large towers that have been proposed/approved that will be in the area? Is the size of this watermain large enough? Can you go back and double check this is enough?	There was a water study that was done and one of the reason this project is proceeding is because of future developments. Study that was done addresses a need that was identified. <u>Post Meeting Note</u> - Toronto Water has confirmed that the upsizing of the Transmission Main from 900 mm to 1200 mm will address any flow issues and will service a larger area beyond Ward 11 University-Rosedale. The anticipated population growth for this area was taken into consideration in the study.
Communication	Will the slide presentation be available to view on the Rowanwood website?	The presentation will be available on the project website next week.

Total Participants:

47 participants

Project Team and Panelists:

Councillors Office

University-Rosedale - Councillor Dianne Saxe

City of Toronto

Kuldip Tamberh – Engineering & Construction Services, Senior Project Manager, Trunk Sewers & Transmission Mains

Kathryn Deschamps – Transportation Services, Senior Project Manager, Construction Coordination and Traffic Mitigation

Steven Ziegler – Public Consultation Unit, Senior Consultation Coordinator

EXP Services Inc.

Chris Sandink – Project Manager

Nabeela Rafique – Field Ambassador