

**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026

**Meeting Type:** In-Person

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

## Project Overview:

The City is continuing to advance the design of new and enhanced transportation infrastructure along the boundary of the City of Toronto and York Region to address existing transportation and safety deficiencies and to support the economic growth of the area.

## Meeting Objectives:

To receive an update on the Steeles Avenue East Widening project and allow residents the opportunity to ask questions from staff.

## Meeting Overview:

The meeting was facilitated by Steven Ziegler, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator. A presentation was provided by Shawna Bowen, Senior Project Manager, Transportation Services 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.

### Design

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
Where does the merger of the lanes from six to two at Ninth Line happen?	There is a transition area east of Ninth Line on Steeles Avenue East.
There are two rivers that cross Steeles – will you do something?	Yes, the bridge structures over the rivers will be replaced.
From a cyclist’s perspective, the streets leading on to Steeles Avenue East and along Steeles are lacking cycling infrastructure, and short signal timing at Eastvale Drive makes it difficult to cross.	In the design, we are including a bi-directional cycling track. It is protected from the street with separation from traffic and the planted boulevard. We are looking to improve signal timing for both pedestrians and cyclists to cross safely.
The area and the environment have changed with the Canada Post and Amazon developments. If you haven’t done it fast enough now, how will you be able to meet the future need?	We look at traffic impact assessments. We have looked at the protected areas and the growth in the City of Toronto and other regions to make sure we understood the area.

# Steeles Avenue Widening

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
What is the rationale of six lanes versus four lanes of traffic across Steeles Avenue?	The six lanes of traffic are a result of the discontinuous alignment that was approved in the 2013 EA. Correct, that widening from two to six vehicular lanes in the City of Toronto is not very typical, however there are other sections of Steeles that are six lanes wide. There are demands on Steeles Avenue from multiple municipalities. Through the EA process and discussions with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, it was preferred to widen to six lanes rather than consider additional widenings in the future.
Can you talk about the turning lanes at Staines Road? Will there be dedicated turning lanes?	The six lanes are both east and west of Staines Road. Currently, there is currently a dedicated eastbound right turn lane.
What about Kirkham Drive? Will there be a turning lane to go right (westbound)? Will there be a traffic light?	The design for a signalized intersection at Kirkham Drive will be coordinated with our City of Markham colleagues to coordinate.

## Traffic

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
The Morningside Heights area residents have heard about this project for a long time. Staines Road was once a residential road and it has increased in traffic for residents. Have you thought about the impacts of traffic?	We have completed updated traffic impact studies as part of this project which look at a much broader area than just the immediate project area of Steeles Avenue East.
Large, heavy trucks are cutting through the Morningside Heights and McNicoll Avenue residential area. What will you do to prevent traffic infiltration during construction?	As part of the next stages of design, the project team will need to prepare traffic management and construction management plans.
In the evening, there is so much traffic, Can the City look at adjusting the signal timing at Ninth Line and Steeles?	We will take note of it and raise it with our colleagues within the City's Transportation Operations team.
Is there any way to manage traffic on Staines Road? People use Staines Road as a shortcut. It takes 10-15 minutes to turn sometimes.	As part of the next stages of design, the project team will need to prepare traffic management and construction management plans, and there will be future updates to keep the community informed.

## Cost

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
Why is York Region covering 50% of the costs?	<p>The 50/50 with the cost sharing agreement is only for the Steeles Avenue East portion of this project and does not apply to the Morningside Avenue portion.</p> <p>Following the approval of the EA in 2013, York Region and the City of Toronto councils directed staff to enter into an agreement for cost sharing. The rationale for cost sharing is because both the City of Toronto and York Region residents benefit from it. The cost sharing agreement will all the costs, including design, construction and asset management.</p>

## Railways

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
The rail line – is it active or not?	Yes, the crossing at Steeles Avenue East is an active rail line at-grade. We will coordinate with Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Rail to ensure the crossing is designed to current design standards.
Will there be a bridge over the train tracks?	The rail crossing will be at-grade, and we will work with CPKC to ensure it is a safe crossing.
The train crossings along Steeles Avenue East create a lot of noise for area residents from the signals. Adding an additional crossing will exacerbate the issue.	There are no new CPKC Rail crossings proposed on Steeles Avenue East as part of this project. The 2013 EA included a new crossing via the Morningside Avenue extension. We understand the concerns about noise.

## Construction

Questions & Comments	Project Team Response
When will construction be starting?	We are almost finished 30% design. We are working to advance the project and the next stage of detailed design. There have been some get some stops and starts on this project due to the changing context.
How long will construction take once it starts?	We can't answer that at the moment.
When will the Morningside Avenue Extension happen?	We don't have timelines for the Morningside Avenue portion of the project, but it will follow the Steeles Avenue East Widening portion.
If construction is starting in 2027, have you thought of any temporary measures, such as a temporary through lane to ease construction at Ninth Line and Steeles Avenue East?	No, we have not looked at any temporary measures, but we will take note.

**Total Participants: 38**

## **City of Toronto Project Team and Panelists**

### **Transportation Services**

Shawna Bowen - Transportation Services

Nathaniel Tan - Transportation Services

Casey Morris - Transportation Services

Michael Milad - Transportation Services

### **Engineering and Construction Services**

Scott Mitchell - Engineering & Construction Services

Amir Gafoor - Engineering & Construction Services

### **Public Consultation Unit**

Steven Ziegler - Public Consultation Unit

Stephanie Gris Bringas - Public Consultation Unit

Amanda Ratych - Public Consultation Unit

Emily Cameron - Public Consultation Unit

### **York Region**

Steve Mota - York Region

### **Councillors**

Councillor Myers and staff

Staff from the Office of Councillor Shan

Councillor Patel (City of Markham)