

Public Meeting Summary

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2026

Meeting Type: Virtual

Start time: 6:30 p.m. **End Time:** 8:30 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 watermains carry large volumes of water from water treatment plants to pumping stations, reservoirs and tanks; and to the local distribution watermains that then deliver water to your home.

Meeting Objectives:

Provide information about restarting construction and the new location of the reception shaft. Staff at the meeting will be available to answer questions and hear resident’s 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. and Kuldip Tamberh, followed by an opportunity for participants to ask questions and hear responses from City staff.

Questions & Comments

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

General

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answers
Will the presentation be available for review?	A copy of the presentation is posted on the project website.
Has emergency services been informed about this work, and will they still be able to access the area?	Local fire services and other emergency responders have already been notified. Emergency access will be maintained throughout construction.
How does the team communicate with residents so they know what to expect?	The project team will use multiple communication methods to keep residents informed. This includes distributing written notices and conducting door-to-door outreach. In addition, the team will maintain direct email communication with residents and those who have subscribed to receive updates via email and provide general project updates through the project website.

Rowanwood Transmission Watermain Construction

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answers
Will homes in the area benefit from improved water pressure?	Residents may not notice an immediate improvement in water pressure. The work is intended to ensure sufficient system capacity.

Parking

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
Will parking be restricted? Where will alternate parking be located?	Residents with on-street parking permits will be able to park on Mathersfield Drive or Chestnut Park. On Pricefield Road, parking will remain unrestricted west of Cluny Drive. Where on-street parking is not permitted, short-term stopping for loading and unloading will be permitted, including for renovation-related activities. After loading or unloading, vehicles should be parked outside the construction area. Additional communication will be sent to all permit holders with details and clarification on parking rules and available locations.
If residents lose access to their driveway during construction, where can they park?	If driveway access is temporarily blocked, advance notice will be provided. The notice will include information on available alternative parking options.

Access and Traffic

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
Some residents have arranged a private security patrol loop along Cluny Drive, Rowanwood Avenue and Thornwood Road. Will the patrol still be able to complete this loop, and is there space to turn around?	The patrol vehicle will continue to have access to the area. While the route may need to be adjusted, sufficient space will be available for turning around.
Can you confirm there will be no heavy staging or truck traffic on Macpherson Avenue between Avenue Road and Yonge Street?	Once the watermain bypass is completed and all major utility relocation work is finished, Macpherson Avenue will be restored to its original condition. After this, construction traffic will no longer use Macpherson Avenue.
There is significant construction underway on Yonge Street, which has been highly disruptive to the neighbourhood.	The project team recognizes that cumulative construction impacts can be disruptive and is actively working to mitigate impacts wherever possible.
Will the intersection of Rowanwood Avenue and Cluny Drive remain open during construction? Will northbound and southbound traffic be maintained?	The intersection will remain open. Two-way traffic will be maintained on both Cluny Drive and Rowanwood Avenue. However, vehicles will not be able to exit Rowanwood Avenue onto Yonge Street or Thornwood Road during construction.
Will bike lanes be temporarily removed to improve traffic flow on Yonge Street?	The removal of bike lanes is not within the scope of this project.

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Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
	<p>During the open-cut phase across Yonge Street, cyclists may be merged with traffic to provide sufficient workspace. The goal is to complete the work as quickly and safely as possible.</p> <p>Post-Meeting note: Comments related the removal of bike lanes have been shared with Transportation Services for review.</p>
There are issues with traffic signal timing that make it difficult to turn onto Yonge Street from Roxborough Street East and Crescent Road East. Can this be adjusted?	The team will review the signal timing and explore adjustments that may improve traffic flow.

Construction

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
How will dirt and cleanliness be managed?	Street sweepers will be used to keep the streets tidy. A full-time site inspector and the Field Ambassador will actively monitor conditions to ensure dust and mud are controlled. Any issues will be raised with the contractor promptly.
Toronto Hydro is replacing poles and stringing wires. Can this work be coordinated with the project?	The team is coordinating with Toronto Hydro and requesting their schedule. Efforts will be made to avoid overlapping utility work where possible.
What work is occurring in Pricefield Park? Will the Park enhancements be completed within the two-year timeline?	Work will take place in the park and playground later in the fall. This work is separate from the watermain project and is not expected to impact the overall timeline.
Will curbs, walkways, and roads be restored to original conditions?	The intent is to restore all disturbed areas to existing conditions. This includes concrete curbs, asphalt driveways, and walkways.
What is the scope of the vertical shaft near Yonge Street and Rowanwood Avenue?	The shaft will be located on the south side of the Shell gas station entrance. It will be approximately 5 × 6 metres in an oval shape, supported by piles approximately one metre wide. The work area will occupy most of the westbound lane and partially encroach into the eastbound lane on the north side of the road.
What does “bypass” mean?	The existing 900 mm watermain along Rowanwood Avenue will be temporarily bypassed. A temporary pipe will connect on either side of the shaft, routing water around it to maintain service during construction. Once the new 1200 mm watermain is installed, the older main will be decommissioned and connected to the shaft.
Will underground work disturb rodents in the area?	The project team will monitor for rodent activity. At this time, no significant issues are anticipated. Monitoring will occur around shaft locations and open-cut areas.
Will impacted roads be repaved as part of restoration?	All disturbed areas will be restored after construction.

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Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
Will there be drainage impacts around homes?	No significant drainage impacts are anticipated. Excavations will be properly backfilled after pipe installation to maintain existing drainage conditions.
What steps are being taken to avoid utility conflicts or delays?	Utilities have been identified through multiple methods. Work has been completed at the launch shaft. Utility relocations will occur at the reception shaft and along Yonge Street, including Enbridge Gas, Rogers, and a combined sewer. No impacts to residents are anticipated as a result.

Trees

Questions & Comments	Project Team Answer
How will residents be informed about tree removals? Can tree removal locations be posted on the project website?	Residents who have trees adjacent to their properties will be notified in advance of any removals. The team will review what information can be shared on the project website regarding tree removal locations.

Total Participants: 36

Project Team and Attendees

Councillors Office

Councillor Dianne Saxe - University-Rosedale

City of Toronto

Jennifer Graham Harkness – Engineering & Construction Services, Chief Engineer & Executive Director

Mika Raisanen – Engineering & Construction Services, Director, Linear Underground Infrastructure

Kuldip Tamberh – Engineering & Construction Services, Manager (A), Trunk Sewers & Transmission Mains

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

Stephanie Gris Bringas – Public Consultation Unit, Program Manager

Steven Ziegler – Public Consultation Unit, Senior Consultation Coordinator

Amanda Ratych - Public Consultation Unit, Consultation Coordinator

EXP Services Inc.

Chris Sandink – Project Manager

Amna Zaidi – Field Ambassador