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Rockcliffe Riverine Flood Mitigation Project

Jane Street Bridge Pre-Construction Update

Why flooding happens here and what is being done about it

Flooding happens because	What's being done about it
 This area is a low-lying floodplain where water naturally collects during heavy rainfall. Development in the area occurred many decades ago, prior to current standards and practices for managing floodplain risks.	Investing more than \$300 million in the following coordinated infrastructure projects as well as homeowner support programs.
 Black Creek can overflow during major storms (riverine flooding).	A. Work includes rebuilding bridges and widening Black Creek to help contain water and move it out of the area faster.
 Sewers and streets can fill faster than they drain (urban flooding).	B. Upgrading sewers to handle more water, reduce the risk of backup.

Historic Investment in Your Neighbourhood

\$300M
New & Upgraded
Infrastructure

A total investment of more than **\$300 million** in new & upgraded infrastructure. Approximately **\$148 million** in funding is being provided through the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

A. Rockcliffe Riverine Flood Mitigation Project

Phase 1: Replacement of Jane Street culvert and Scarlett Road bridge with new bridges that have wider openings and widening the channel under the bridges.

Phase 2: Rockcliffe Boulevard bridge replacement, Weston Road flood protection wall, and Black Creek channel widening from Jane Street to Alliance Avenue.

Phase 3: Lavender Creek channel widening from Symes Road to Black Creek, culvert widening at Symes Road and removal of driveway culverts.

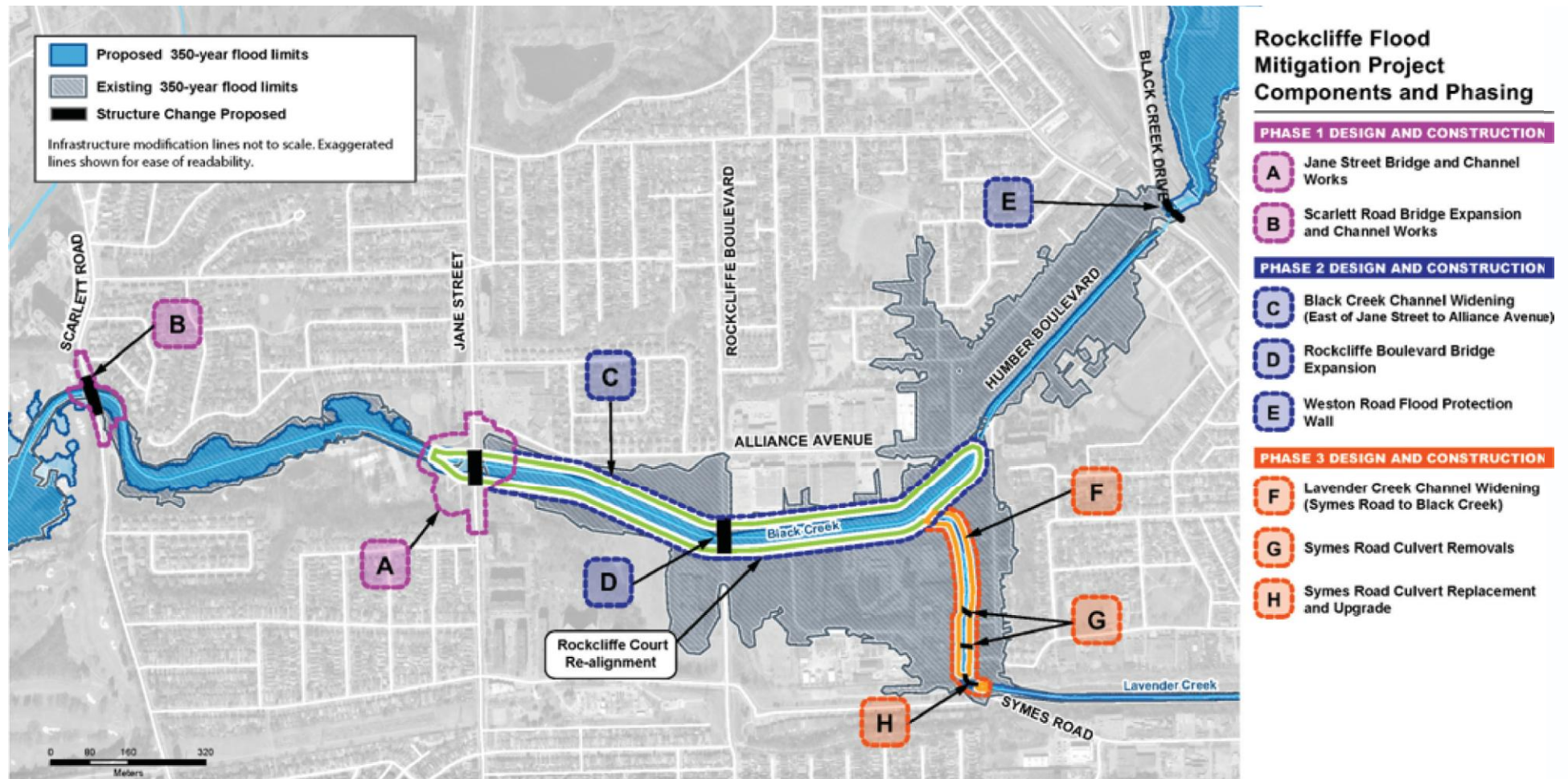
B. Sewer Upgrade Projects

Local Sewers: Focused local area sewer upgrades to help reduce basement and surface flooding. Will advance after Rockcliffe riverine work is complete. Completed as part of the City's Basement Flooding Protection Program.

Black Creek Trunk Sewer: New large trunk sewer works together with creek improvements and local sewer improvements to provide a more complete, area-wide approach to flood protection.

Riverine Flood Mitigation: Addressing the risk of Black Creek and Lavendar Creek overflowing

The solution for riverine flooding in the Rockcliffe-Smythe area has many parts. Together, these improvements will reduce the risk for homes and businesses.

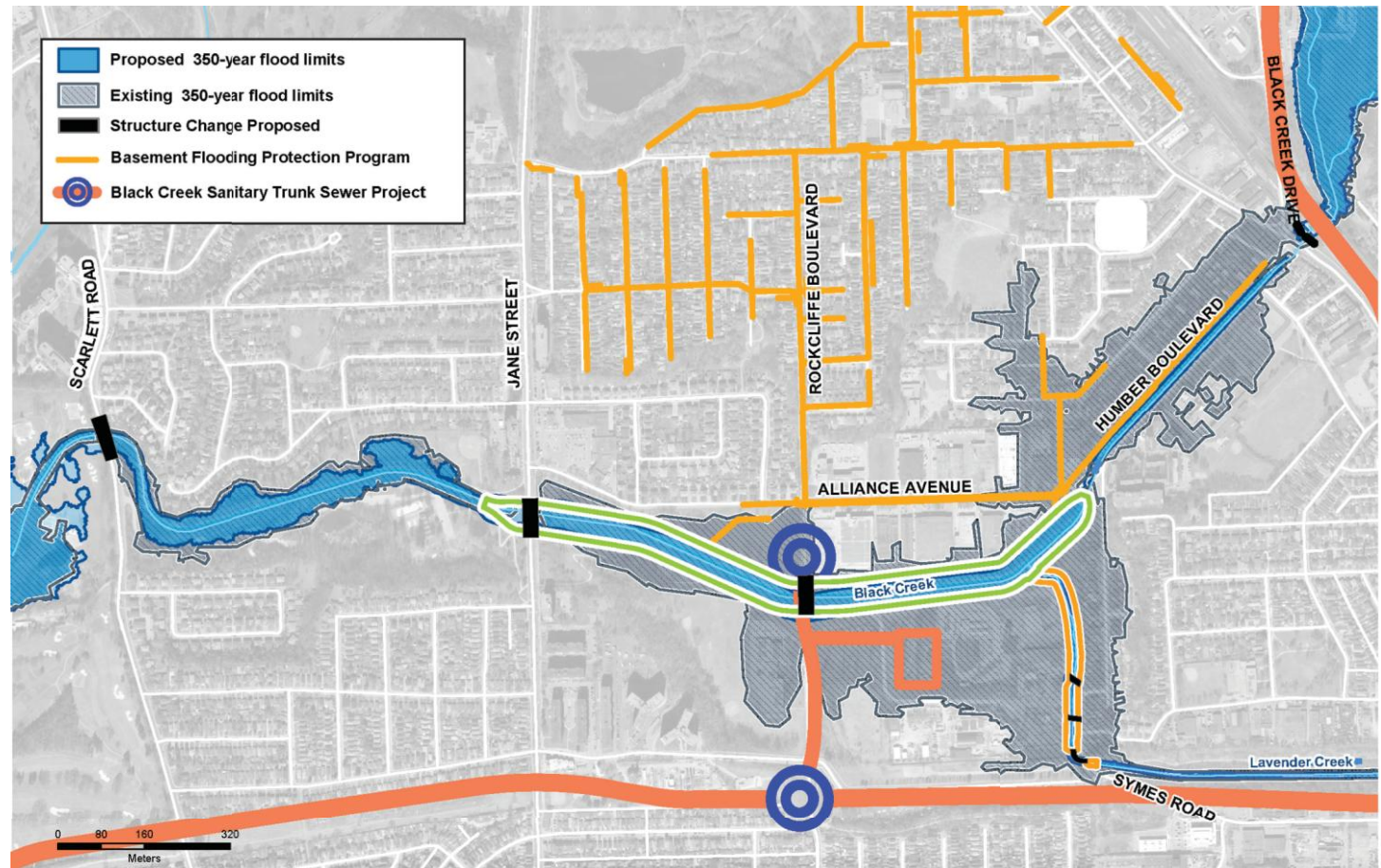


Sewer Upgrades: Addressing the risk of sewers filling faster than they can drain

The City is reducing urban flooding with two major sewer projects:

Local Sewers: Focused local area sewer upgrades to help reduce basement and surface flooding. Will advance after Rockcliffe riverine work is complete. This is part of the of the City's Basement Flooding Protection Program.

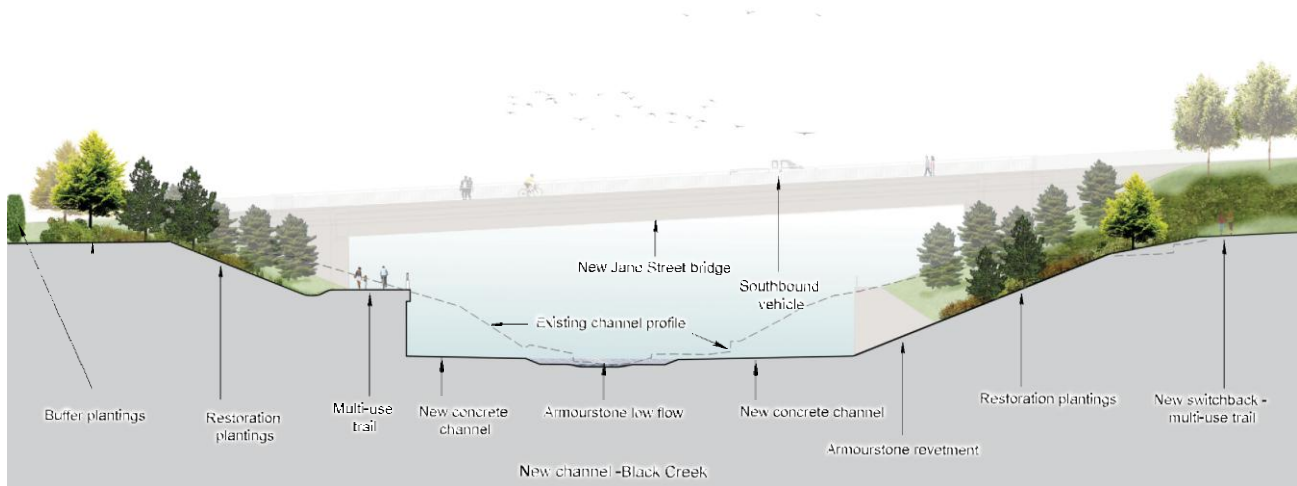
Black Creek Trunk Sewer: New large trunk sewer works together with creek improvements and local sewer improvements to provide a more complete, area-wide approach to flood protection.



Riverine Flood Mitigation Phase 1: New Jane Street Bridge

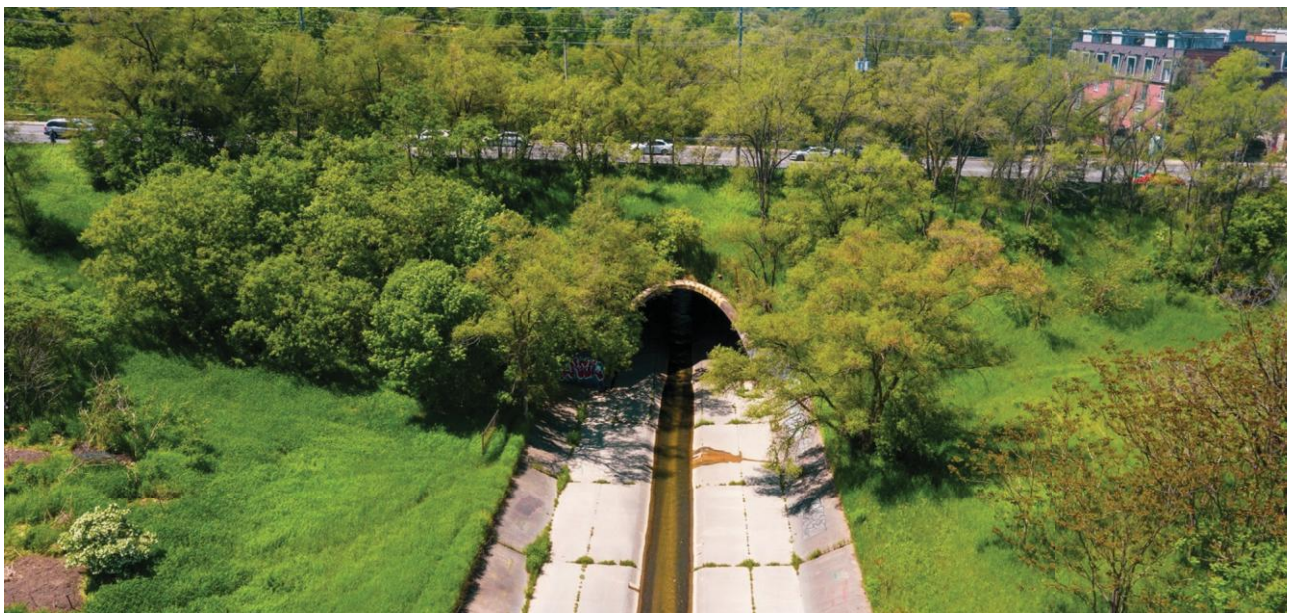
The City will replace the Jane Street culvert with a new bridge that has a wider opening over Black Creek.

Widening the Black Creek channel will move water through the area more quickly, reducing the risk of overtopping creek banks during major storms.



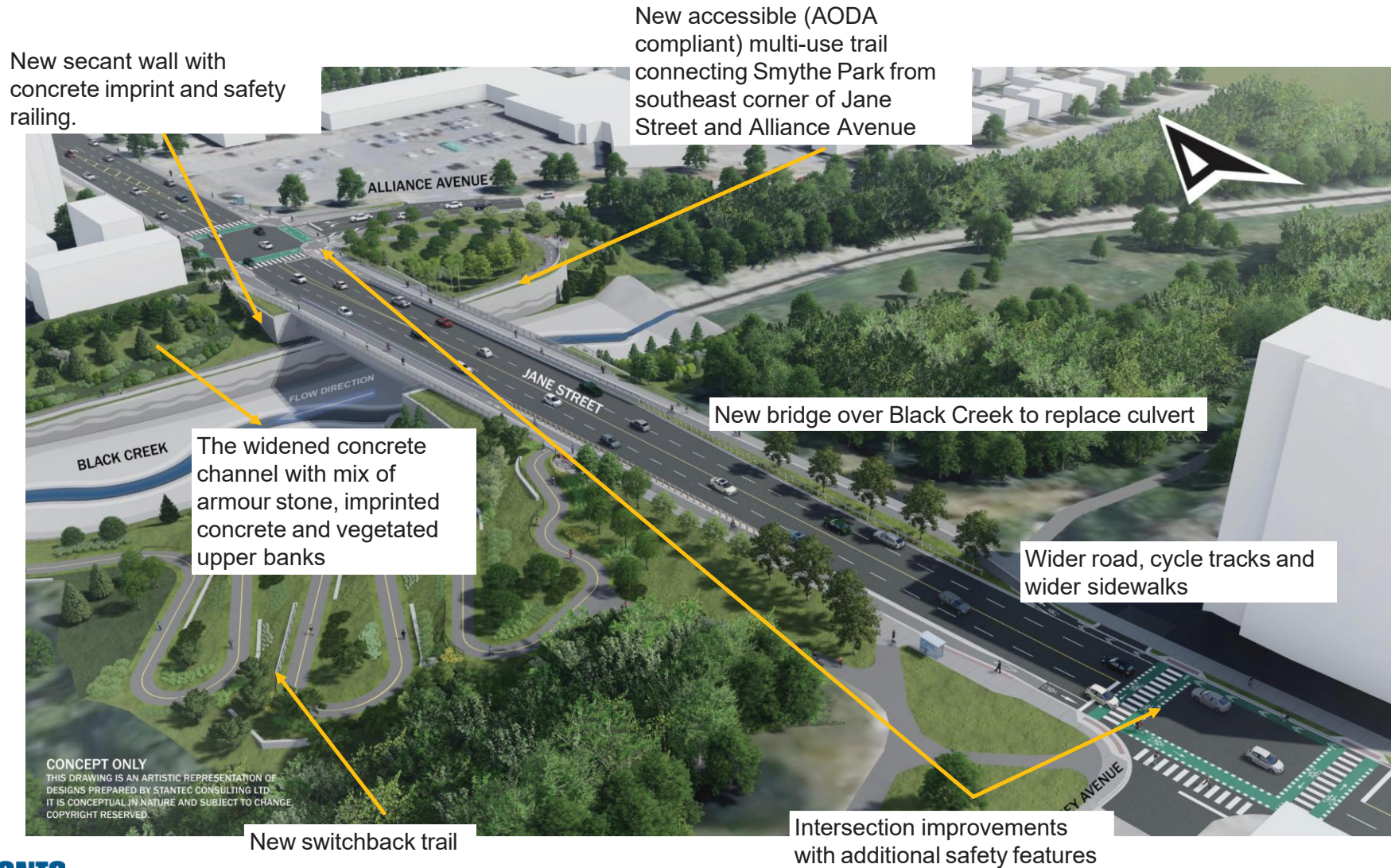
View of widened Black Creek channel looking east towards the new Jane Street Bridge

During construction, the existing culvert and channel will remain in place while the structure of the new bridge is built around it.



View of existing Black Creek channel looking west towards the Jane Street culvert

Riverine Flood Mitigation Phase 1: New Jane Street Bridge over Black Creek

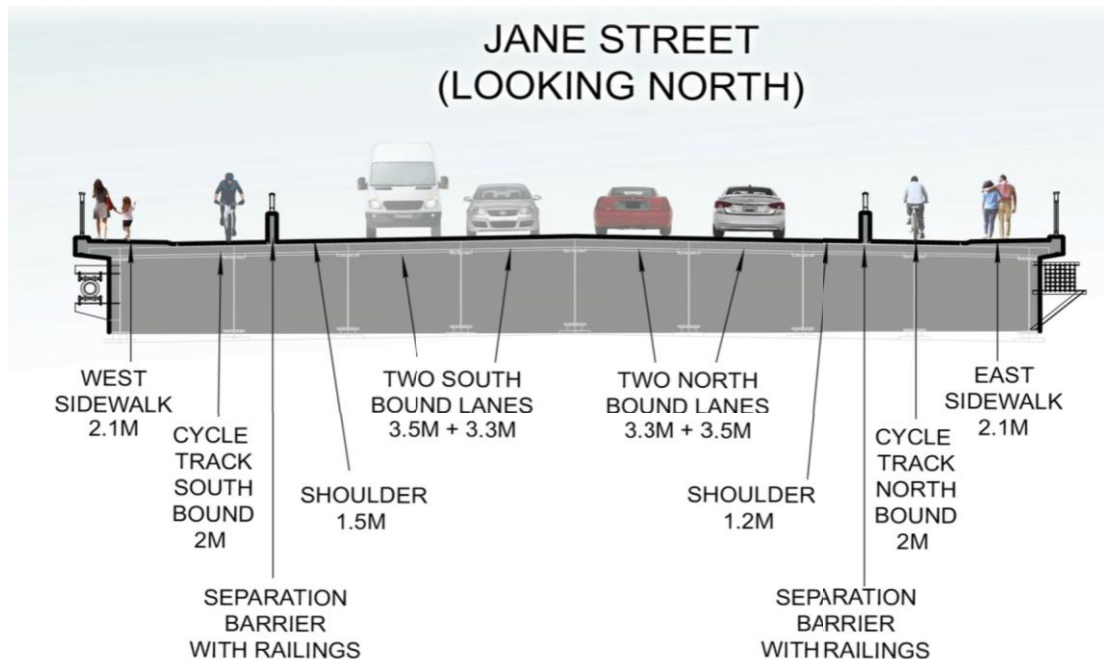


Riverine Flood Mitigation Phase 1: Jane Street Road Design

Construction of the new Jane Street bridge is an opportunity to improve the design of the road to enhance safety and accessibility.

Improvements include:

- wider sidewalks
- protected cycle tracks
- accessible trail connections from Jane Street to Smythe Park
- space for a transit facility in the future



Intersection Improvements

Changes are planned for the intersections at Haney Avenue and Alliance Avenue, north and south of the Jane Street bridge. Traffic studies show that even with the removal of northbound left-turn lanes, the intersections will continue to function well.



Intersection of Alliance Ave and Jane St



Intersection of Haney Ave and Jane St

Riverine Flood Mitigation Phase 1: Improved Multi-Use Trails

Jane Street bridge construction includes improved trail access to Smythe Park for pedestrians and people cycling.

Two trails will be constructed:

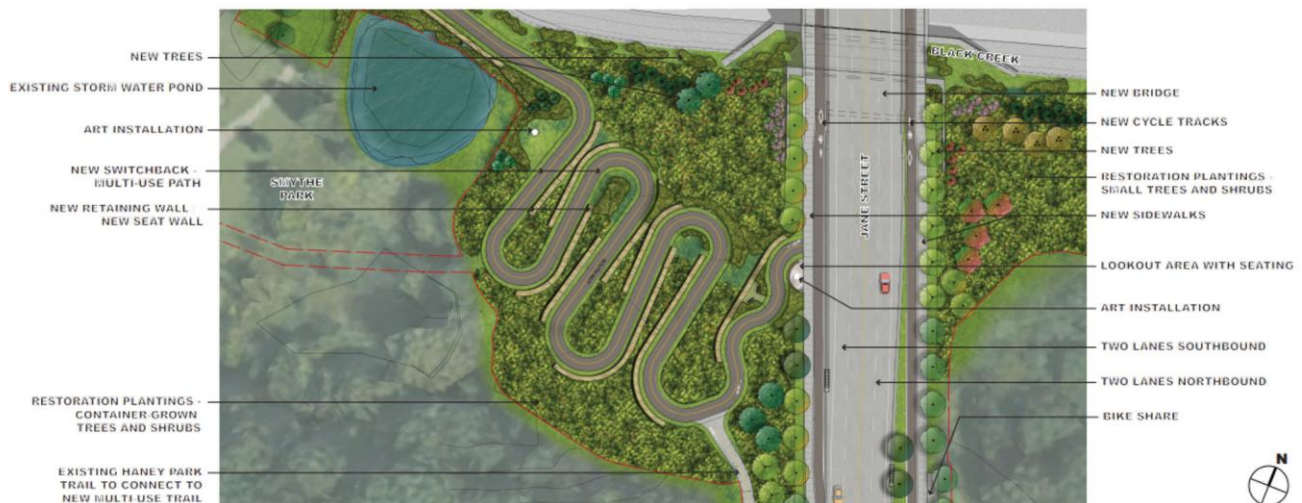
- The switchback trail that begins near Haney Avenue will be rebuilt with a new alignment after the bridge is completed.
- A new trail on the east side of Jane Street, south of Alliance Avenue will replace the path on the west side of Jane Street. It will cross under the bridge and connect people to north side of Smythe Park and the baseball diamonds.



New multi-use trail from the southeast corner of Jane Street and Alliance Avenue, looking west



Intersection of Haney Ave and Jane St



New alignment of the pedestrian 'switchback' trail from Jane Street into Smythe Park.

Riverine Flood Mitigation Phase 1: Public Art

Accomplished Canadian artist Shanie Tomassini was selected to develop sculptures that will be placed in the project area at the end of construction.

‘Water Dwellers’ are figures that emulate water-worn rocks and eroded banks, shaped by currents and time. The sculptures are intended to invite reverence and ecological attunement. The Ring Head sculpture, to be placed at the top of Jane Street, will be made from aluminum, catching and reflecting light. The Heart Head sculpture, at the base of the switchback trail, will be made from bronze with a green patina. Together, these sculptures invite people into a sense of harmonization, wonder and relationship with the landscape.



Jane Street Bridge & Channel Construction



Replacement of the Jane Street culvert with a new bridge that has a wider opening over Black Creek

Anticipated start: August 2026

Anticipated completion: 2029

Phase 1 Jane Street Bridge construction will be carried out in stages:

Stage 1 - Site preparation and utility relocation (7 months)

- Remove the switchback trail, establish work zone, and create temporary access roads to the creek channel for construction vehicles.
- Relocate the underground pipes and wires that provide power, and wastewater services in the area to make space for the bridge and channel sections.
- Relocate a large sewer that crosses under Jane Street using a tunnelling machine.

Stage 2 - Construction of the new Jane Street bridge, road, and trails (21 months)

- Road and bridge construction will take place at the same time.
- Minimum one lane of traffic in each direction will remain open
- Remove the soil around the existing culvert: construct new bridge structure, and install bridge mount watermain and utility ducts for Bell and Hydro ducts.
- Build the new, wider road with wider sidewalks, new separated bike lanes and redesigned intersections.
- Construct the new multi-use trail underneath the bridge, connecting Smythe park to Alliance Avenue and Jane Street.; and work in the stormwater pond.
- Place new asphalt and pavement markings, signage and traffic signals.



Construction will take place

Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Work may take place after hours, on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sundays and statutory holidays as required.

Jane Street Bridge & Channel Construction



Replacement of the Jane Street culvert with a new bridge that has a wider opening over Black Creek

Anticipated start: August 2026

Anticipated completion: 2029

Stage 3 - Culvert removal and channel reconstruction (6 months)

- Install Creek bypass and environmental protection for main channel work.
- Remove the existing culvert and the concrete channel from east of the pedestrian bridge to 50 metres east of Jane Street.
- Reconstruct the section of channel under Jane Street with a meandering low-flow channel, and stamped concrete channel apron.
- Construct patterned concrete facing at retaining wall facing channel.
- Install outfalls.

Stage 4 - Restoration and landscaping (3 months)

- Construct the new, accessible switchback trail from the west side of Jane Street north of Haney Avenue.
- Construct armour stone retaining wall associated with south switchback.
- Plant new trees and shrubs, lay new sod.
- Public Art sculpture installation.
- Site Demobilization.

Travel During Construction

Travel along Jane Street will be maintained during construction.

The City's contractor will place signs in the area to advise people of construction and lane restrictions.

The City will monitor traffic conditions and make adjustments if needed.



Drivers

- One lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction through the construction area.
- Temporary road closures may be required for specialized equipment and delivery of bridge elements.



Pedestrians

- Pedestrian access on one side of Jane Street will be maintained at all times.
- No crossing within the work zone. Signs will be installed directing pedestrians where to cross.



TTC Service

- 35/935 Jane bus service will continue.
- Bus stops may be relocated temporarily during construction. Signage will be posted



Emergency Service

- Access for Paramedics, Police and Fire Services will be maintained at all times.



Snow Cleaning

- The contractor will be responsible to clear the road, sidewalk and temporary walkways within the construction area.



Property and Driveway Access

- The contractor will be responsible to clear the road, sidewalk and temporary walkways within the construction area.

Managing Construction Impacts

The City recognizes that construction can be disruptive for residents and businesses. During construction, a Field Ambassador will be available to respond to questions or concerns.

Construction Updates and Contact Information



- A Construction Notice will be circulated at the start of construction providing important information and contact details for the Field Ambassador.
- Construction updates will be circulated to homes and business as required.

Truck access



- Construction vehicles will need to access the site to bring materials and remove soil and concrete.
- Trucks will enter the construction area from Jane Street and from Rockcliffe Boulevard using temporary access roads. For some critical activities, trucks may enter from the park driveway at Scarlett Road.
- Truck operators must operate within the construction works hours.
- The number of trucks will be highest during diffing and removal activities, and at times when a steady supply of concrete is required.
- Flag persons will be present to guide trucks in and out of the site.

Noise from construction



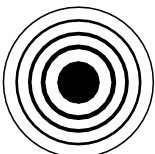
- Work hours are within the City's Noise Bylaw limits.
- As part of regular project updates, information will be shared before very noisy work begins.

Dust and erosion



- Specialized measures will be in place to stop sand and dirt from entering the creek during construction.

Vibration monitoring



- The City's contractor will monitor vibration created by construction activities that are carried out close to properties.
- This monitoring ensures that vibration does not go above set limits.

Managing Construction Impacts

During major storms

- The park areas along Black Creek east and west of Jane Street, including Smythe Park are and will continue to function as part of the floodplain.
- Floodplains are important geographical features for flood mitigation. They provide storage for water that overtops channel banks during storms and support plant diversity and wildlife.
- Some nearby properties have experienced flooding during very large storms.

During construction (temporary)

- For about one year (2028–2029), there is a small chance more water could enter Smythe Park during storms, and an extremely low chance that, without protection measures, it could reach some nearby homes.

What the City is doing to protect private properties:

- Installing temporary flood barriers near affected properties.
- Monitoring conditions and responding if needed.

This is short-term and part of building long-term flood protection.

Affected properties have already received notification.



Temporary flood mitigation using sandbags



Temporary flood mitigation using modular flood barriers

Work within Smythe Park

Construction of the Jane Street bridge and multi-use trail will take place within a portion of Smythe Park and east of Jane Street.

The City recognizes the importance of Smythe Park to the community.

Park recreation facilities will remain open during construction, including the swimming pool, playground and baseball fields.

Access to the park will remain open from Scarlett Road and Black Creek Boulevard. The switchback trail at Haney Avenue will be closed during construction.



This fall, the City's Parks & Recreation Division is planning to make improvements to the playground in Smythe Park. The playground is expected to reopen by the end of 2026 and will be open during bridge construction.

Protecting Wildlife

Smythe Park is home to a diversity of animal wildlife including turtles, fox and coyotes. With input from the community groups, the City and the TRCA have developed a plan to protect wildlife during construction.



- Ahead of construction, expert ecological staff will complete a sweep of the work area to move any wildlife.
- The contractor will be required to provide breaks in the construction fencing to allow wildlife to pass.
- Work crews will receive awareness training to ensure that wildlife protection measures are followed.
- Continuous monitoring and adherence programs to ensure responsible wildlife management compliance.

Work in the pond

To widen the creek channel, the north side of the stormwater pond closest to Jane Street must be rebuilt.

The pond is home to red painted turtles, and measures are being taken to protect them.

Care for turtles includes:

- Safe relocation by ecologists.
- Placement of turtle mound protection where mounds have been identified.

Work in the pond will avoid turtle hibernation period, between late summer and late spring.



Restoration and Replanting

The City and TRCA will make an effort to minimize impact to trees from construction. As part of restoration, multiple trees will be planted for each one removed.

Tree removal for Jane Street bridge construction is close to complete.

In fall of this year, 232 trees and shrubs will need to be removed from the east side of Jane Street at Alliance Avenue.

- All tree removals require review and approval as part of the City's Ravine and Natural Feature Protection bylaw and Street Tree bylaw.
- Trees near the construction area that do not need to be removed will be protected.



In the last stage of construction, restoration and landscaping will be completed in affected areas in Smythe Park and east of Jane Street.

The plan includes:

- Approximately 2,300 new trees and 5,300 new shrubs.
- Varieties of trees and plants that enhance biodiversity and ecology.
- Hardy, native species.

Additional replacement trees will be planted elsewhere within the Rockcliffe-Smythe area.

Harvesting removed trees

The City and TRCA have worked closely with Friends of Smythe Park and Turtle Protectors to salvage wood from removed trees. Some of the wood will be used for ceremonial fires at Christie Pits Park, some logs will be used to enhance the Medicine Garden, and other logs have been placed in Smythe Park to support habitat for wildlife.

Scarlett Road Bridge Reconstruction

The City is completing the final engineering design for the Scarlett Road bridge. Construction has been advanced to start earlier. Work is anticipated to start in late 2027 and is expected to be complete in 2029.

Scarlett Road bridge construction will begin after work at Jane Street has started. Before work can begin on Scarlett Road:

- The City must complete property acquisition.
- Some underground utilities must be moved to avoid conflict during construction.
- Tree removal will be required around the work area.

Work widening and elevating on the Jane Street bridge remains the priority in Phase 1 because:

- It will significantly reduce flood risk for many properties upstream.
- It does not require property acquisition.

When Scarlett Road bridge construction is complete, flooding risk from Black Creek in Smythe Park and the area between Jane Street and Scarlett Road will be reduced.



Riverine Flood Mitigation Phases 2 & 3: Engineering and Design

Engineering work for Phase 2, along Black Creek, between Jane Street and Weston Road, and Phase 3, along Lavender Creek between Black Creek and Symes Road, started this summer.



- This includes reviewing, updating and refining flood modelling to better understand how water moves through the area and how the system will perform during storms.

Advanced modelling



- The design work will use the latest modelling approaches, including updated 2D modelling and focused 3D analysis in key areas where required.
- The modelling will be completed by leading experts and reviewed by a second team of specialists.
- This work will take a closer look at how water flows and interacts with the creek and surrounding area to inform the design while having regard for Regulatory requirements.



Reducing flood risk

- Planned improvements will increase the capacity of Black Creek and Lavender Creek to move water more efficiently during storms, helping to reduce the chance negative impact of riverine flooding in the community.



Timeline and next steps

- The modelling review is expected to be completed by early 2027.
- The results will be used to refine and advance the design.
- No construction decisions for these phases will be made until this work is complete.

Sewer Upgrade Projects: Local Sewers

Planned local sewer upgrades in the Rockcliffe-Smythe neighbourhood will help reduce the risk of basement flooding.

Right now, the area has combined sewers that carry wastewater and stormwater in the same pipe. During heavy rain, these pipes can fill up and lead to basement backups and overflow into Black Creek.

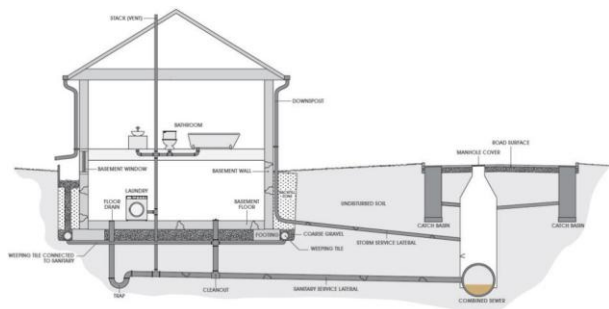
To address this, the City will:

- Build new sewer pipes just for rainwater.
- Add an underground stormwater treatment tank near Alliance Avenue and Rockcliffe Boulevard to help clean stormwater before it reaches Black Creek.

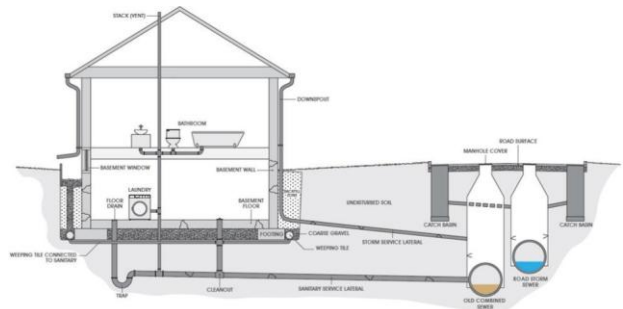
Together, these upgrades will:

- Reduce the risk of basement flooding.
- Ease pressure on the sewer system.
- Reduce combined sewer overflows into Black Creek.

Combined Sewer System



Separated Sewer System



Note: Typical connections are shown above, however, private drainage systems can be more complex and each one is unique. For example, there could be other combinations of connections shown.



Photo showing installation of new sewer pipe

Sewer Upgrade Projects: Black Creek Trunk Sewer Relief System

Upcoming work on the large Black Creek sanitary sewer will reduce overflows into Black Creek and improve water quality.

Built around 1960, the Black Creek sanitary sewer system carries wastewater from many neighbourhoods to the City's Humber treatment plant. It runs about 15 km and serves a large area. It is a large sewer that collects flow from smaller local sewers along the way. The Rockcliffe neighbourhood is at the end of this system, where all that flow passes through.

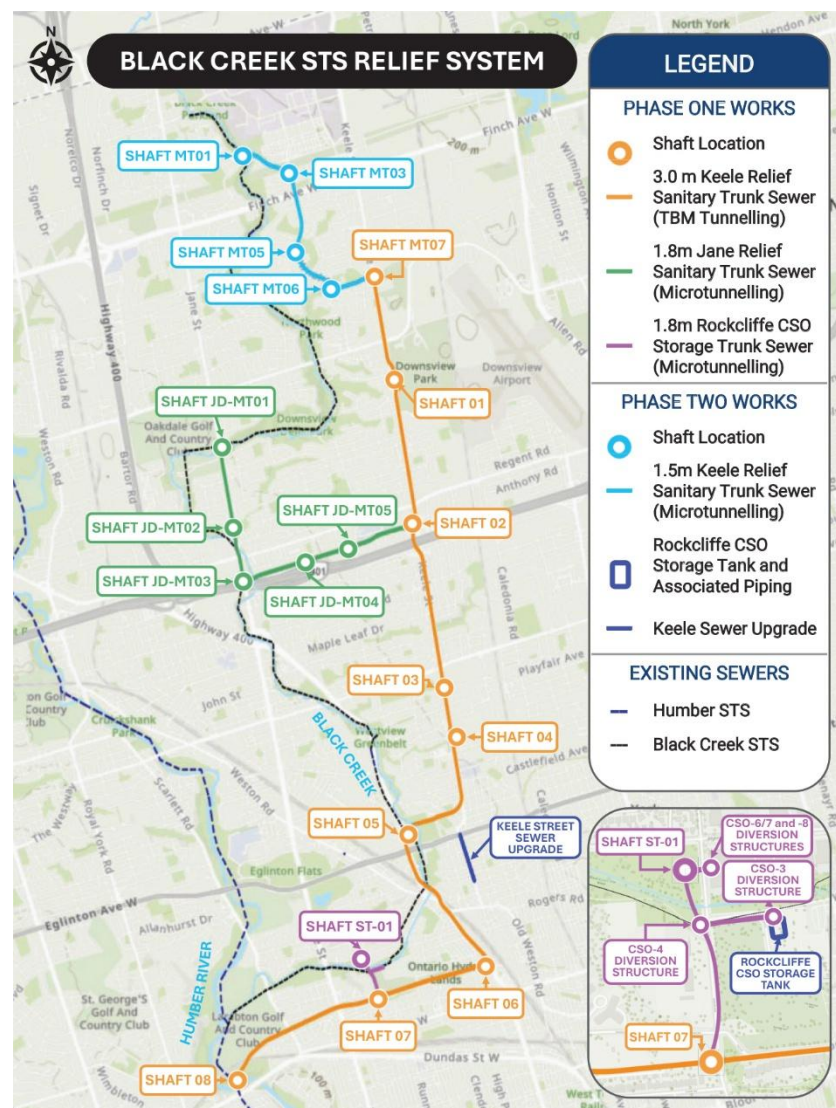
Over 20 km of new relief trunk sewers and tunnel will be built to reduce flows into the existing Black Creek Sewer System, including those coming through the Rockcliffe area.

Project benefits:

- Less risk of backups and overflows during heavy rain.
- Improved water quality.
- Capacity for growth so the system can better handle future demand.

During wet weather, the current system captures about 75% of flows, with 44 combined sewer overflows during an average year. The planned relief system and storage will reduce overflows to once per year, on average.

Construction work is expected to begin in 2027 and will be completed in two phases.



Grants and Subsidies

Rockcliffe No Fault Grant for Basement Flooding Damages Program

This program offers a grant of up to \$7,500 to help cover uninsured basement flooding damage caused by a storm.

The grant is available on an ongoing basis, as long as the City continues to offer the program. This means you can apply and receive a grant each time your property is affected by a storm event.

To qualify, you must:

- Be a resident of Toronto.
- Be the registered owner of a single-family home, duplex, triplex or fourplex.
- Have a property located within the Rockcliffe Special Policy Area.
- Meet all program eligibility requirements.
- Agree to the City's terms and conditions.

For more information or to apply, visit toronto.ca/RockcliffeFloodingGrant or scan the QR code. For additional assistance or to find out if your property is eligible, call **311** or email nofaultgrant@toronto.ca.



This program will be closed once Basement Flooding Protection Program measures are installed.

Basement Flooding Protection Subsidy Program

As of May 1, 2026, this City program has been expanded to offer up to \$6,650 per property to help owners of single-family, duplex, triplex and fourplex homes protect their property from basement flooding.

Eligible work under the expanded program includes:

- A home plumbing assessment
- Installation of backwater valves (up to two) and alarms
- Installation of a sump pump, alarm and battery backup power
- Severance and capping of a home's storm sewer or external weeping tile connection.



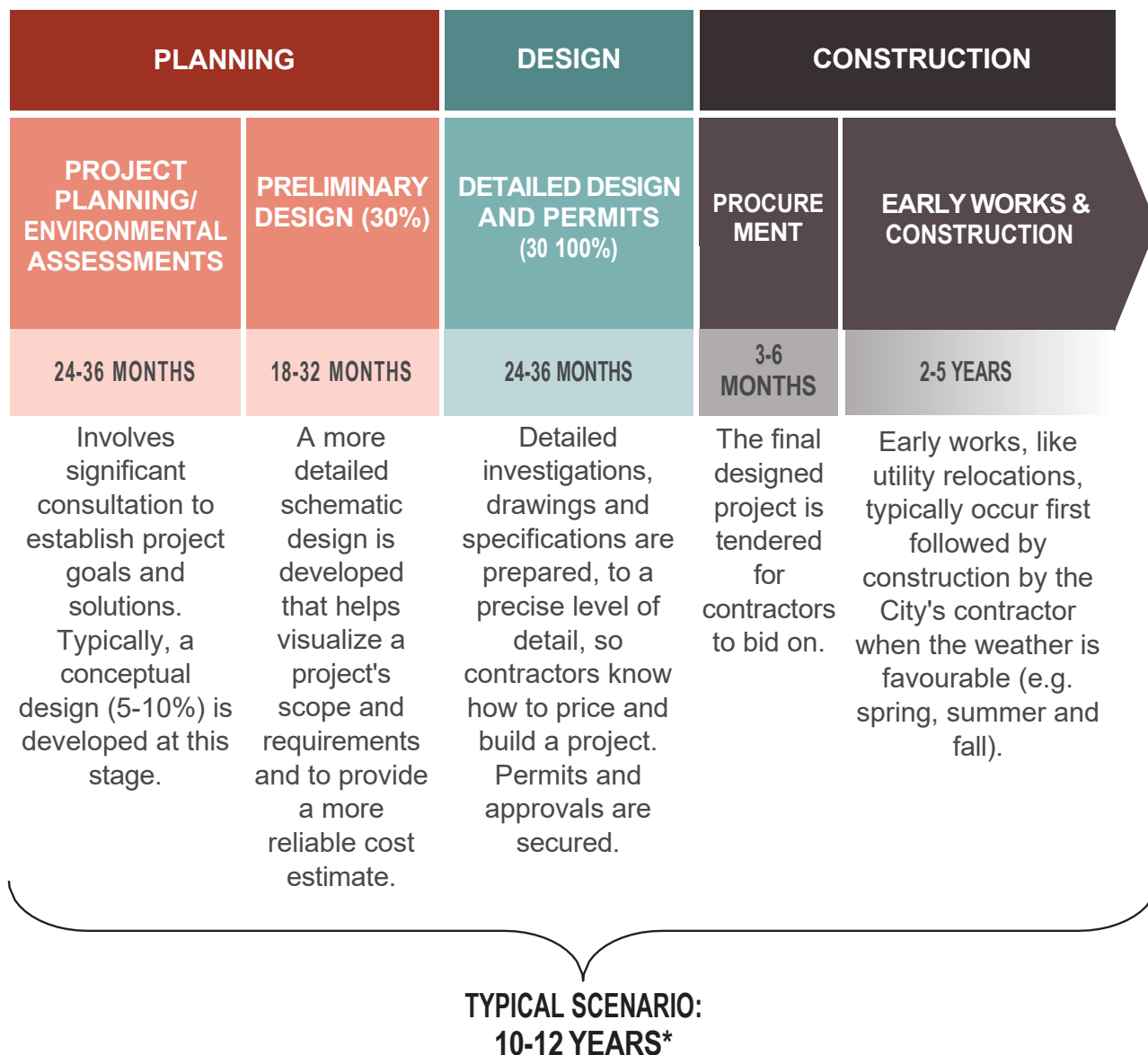
Photo of a backwater valve

Properties have a lifetime maximum subsidy amount for each type of eligible work.

For more information, visit toronto.ca/BFPsubsidy or scan the QR code.

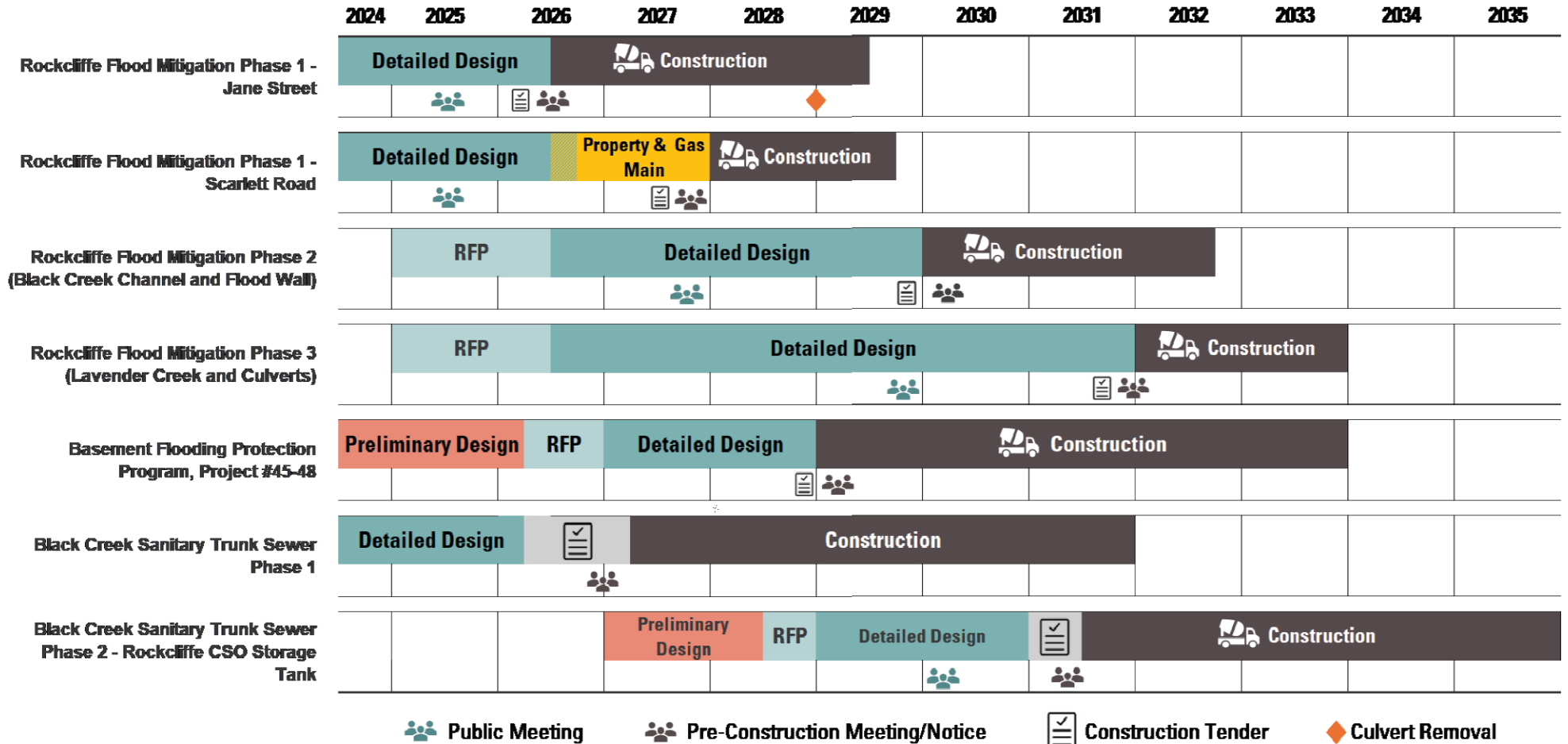


How Big Infrastructure Projects Get Built



*Each project is different. Timelines and how a project is constructed can vary depending on complexity and size of project.

Current Anticipated Timelines

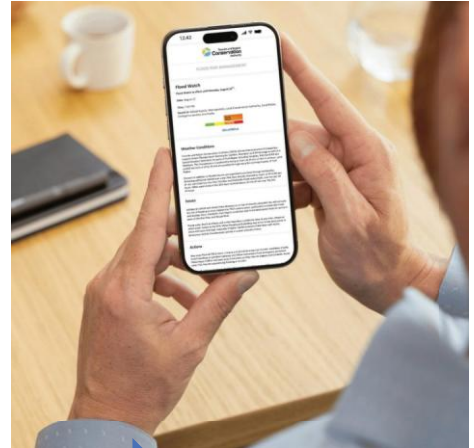


Emergency Preparedness

Be Prepared

Sign up to receive TRCA flood messages via email and text message directly at trca.ca/floodmessages and follow us on X for real-time updates.

To sign up for **TRCA flood messages** scanning the QR code.



Be Prepared: Digital Flood Handbook

TRCA has developed **digital handbooks** with information and resources for residents living in Flood Vulnerable Clusters.

Read the **Rockcliffe-Smythe Digital Flood Handbook** by scanning the QR code



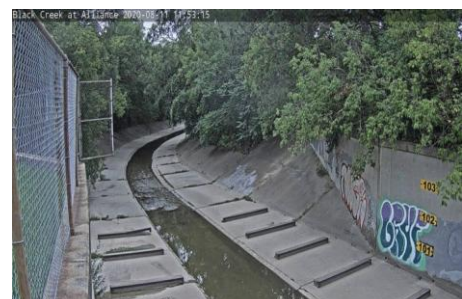
Stay Informed

Visit TRCAgauging.ca to view real-time water levels in your local river or stream. The website has features to help both TRCA staff and the public monitor weather and watershed conditions.

A water level gauge, precipitation gauge and a camera of the Black Creek channel were installed in the Rockcliffe-Smythe community to help with flood monitoring.



Real time water level gauge
(located near Alliance Avenue)



Live camera monitoring system in the channel

Flood Emergency Planning, Monitoring and Operations

TRCA's Flood Forecasting and Warning Program is a core program required of all Conservation Authorities in Ontario. As part of the Flood Forecasting and Warning Program, TRCA has Flood Duty Officers who monitor weather forecasts and assess rainfall and watershed conditions daily and issues flood messages to municipalities, school boards, media and the public.

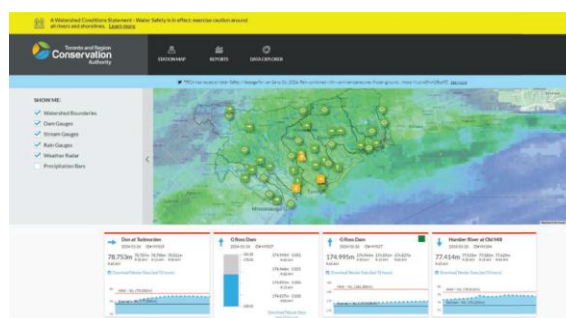
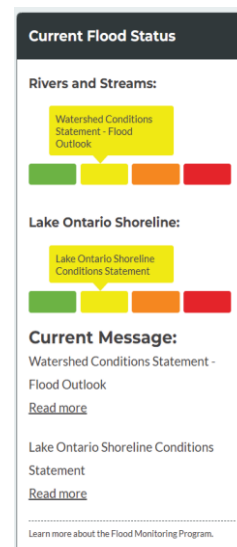
Real-Time Flood Monitoring

To support the Flood Forecasting and Warning Program, TRCA operates an extensive flood monitoring network with real-time rain (precipitation), water level (stream) gauges and live camera views to provide the latest and most accurate data.



Flood Control Infrastructure

Flood Infrastructure staff maintain 12 dams, 6 dikes, and 9 flood control channels constructed in the late 1960s. The Black Creek channel (Weston Road to west of Scarlett Road) is regularly maintained. Safety precautions should be taken around these structures.



This network is publicly accessible through TRCAGauging.ca.

Flood Response Plan

The City of Toronto has a comprehensive emergency plan including flood response. Municipalities, including emergency responders, have the primary responsibility for the welfare of residents and protection of public property.

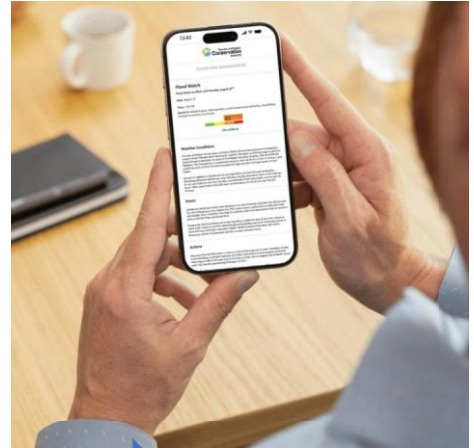
To support flood preparedness, resources were developed by TRCA to assist emergency response agencies in managing flood response within the community.

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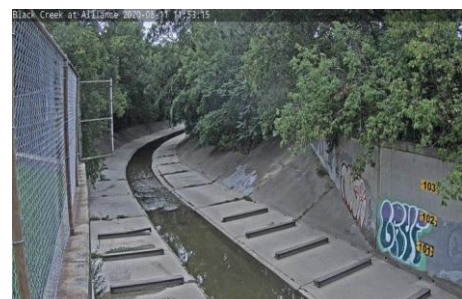
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Real time water level gauge
(located near Alliance Avenue)



Live Camera Monitoring System in the channel

More information & Updates



Visit the project webpage **toronto.ca/Rockcliffe** for background information and to subscribe to the project mail list



Contact the project team at the City
Telephone: 416-392-3556
Email: Rockcliffe@toronto.ca

Area residents will receive a Construction Notice in the mail with contact information for the Field Ambassador, who you can call for construction related questions or concerns.