

COMMUNITY UPDATE

1615 Dufferin Street September 2026



Construction Updates

The City is working towards obtaining all necessary approvals and permits to begin construction. The contractor started to mobilize on-site August 24th and will begin construction activities on September 8th. Construction completion is targeted for Q3 2028. Timelines are subject to change based on various factors throughout the development process.

Once open, the shelter will comply with the [Shelter Design and Technical Guidelines](#) and operate according to the [Toronto Shelter Standards](#).

Expected Work Hours

Construction noise will generally take place during the following hours:

- **Monday to Friday:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Saturdays:** 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

While the City is exempt from the [Noise By-law](#), we are committed to minimizing any community impacts in accordance with the by-laws, except in extreme circumstances.

The City understands the importance of coordinating this development with other community programs and initiatives. It will continue working with other City divisions to minimize community impacts whenever possible.

What Residents May Notice On-Site

Residents may observe standard construction activity, including:

- **Site Hoarding:** Installed to secure the site perimeter and ensure safety.
- **Sidewalk Occupancy:** Scaffolding for overhead sidewalk protection along Dufferin and Rosemount.
- **Excavation & Shoring:** After installing plywood barriers, excavation, shoring, and demolition activities will begin.
- **Workers & Vehicles:** Ongoing presence of workers and construction vehicles, equipment operation and material deliveries.

A portion of the parkette next to the library at 1625 Dufferin Street will be closed off during construction. The City has secured tree permits. The contractor will install a Tree Protection Zones for the affected trees and restore the parkette after construction.

How Construction Impacts Will Be Managed

Mitigation measures are in place to reduce disruptions, including:

- On-site supervision to manage noise levels.
- Adherence to municipal by-laws and provincial regulations.

- Use of appropriate shielding and equipment to minimize off-site impacts.

Engagement Updates

The City is committed to working with the community to support the site's success.

The City has hired Community Engagement Facilitator Optimus SBR to lead the next phase of the community engagement process.

Engagement events and notices will continue to support transparent, ongoing communication during the next construction phase. Information and event summaries will be posted to the webpage. Please visit toronto.ca/1615Dufferin.

Please note that the new email for the site is now 1615Dufferin@toronto.ca. Please send inquiries to this address. Future inquiries sent to 1615Dufferin@gmail.com will be answered from the new address.

Shelter Operations

The shelter program will be operated by [Covenant House Toronto](https://covenanthouse.ca), Canada's largest charity serving youth experiencing homelessness. At 1615 Dufferin, Covenant House Toronto will provide shelter and wraparound support services for about 50 young people aged 16 to 24. It will be staffed 24-hours a day, seven days a week and will offer outcome-focused supports to help youth stabilize their lives, stay in school, pursue employment, strengthen family connections and find housing.

Referrals to the program will be made through the City's telephone-based [Central Intake](https://centralintake.ca) service.

Street Needs Assessment – Trends in Homelessness

The City of Toronto's Street Needs Assessment is a city-wide point-in-time count of people living outdoors, in encampments, shelters, respite sites, and some institutional settings. While overall outdoor homelessness declined in 2025, the geographic distribution is shifting across Toronto and there is a need for equitable access to outreach, shelter and housing supports in all parts of the city.

Learn more about SNA at [Street Needs Assessment – City of Toronto](https://toronto.ca/street-needs-assessment).

Stay Informed

If you have questions or concerns about construction activities or the shelter site, please contact us at 1615Dufferin@toronto.ca.

The City will continue to share updates as the project progresses through community bulletins, ongoing coordination with the councillor's office and upcoming engagement opportunities.

For more information or to subscribe to project updates, please visit toronto.ca/1615Dufferin or email 1615Dufferin@toronto.ca.

Stay Connected

If you have questions or would like to stop receiving future updates, please contact us

Email: 1615Dufferin@toronto.ca

Website: toronto.ca/1615Dufferin