

Lakeshore East Joint Corridor CLC - December 7, 2023**ATTENDEES****Elected Officials/Staff**

Nicolas Valverde

City of Toronto

Lais Siqueira Fabricio

Julia Murnaghan

Metrolinx

Mark Clancy

Alexandra Grgas-Sorge

Katiana Moussa

Malcolm MacKay

John Potter

Dufferin/LURA

Andre Pereira

Michael Macaluso

Geoffrey Mosher

Nico Zucco

BIAs/Community Groups/Residents

Lanrick Bennet

Kit Chapman

Sarah Elton

Shelley Kline

Vinita Kalia

Jennifer Lay(Riverside BIA)

Kathryn Mellin

Cathy Quinton(Leslieville BIA)

Jennifer Richards

Catherine Riddel

OVERVIEW

The seventh Lakeshore East Joint Corridor CLC took place at 6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. on December 7, 2023, via Microsoft Teams. During this meeting, the discussion focused on recent and upcoming construction work on several bridges, utility works, and mitigation measures implemented to reduce the impact of construction work to the community.

QUESTIONS

- **Can the action items from previous months be carried over to the next meeting with the date until they are resolved? For example, items such as an Infrastructure Ontario representative to join CLC, providing a 6-month construction calendar, providing noise and vibration report provided.**
 - Yes, Metrolinx can update those details in future presentations.
- **Why did the removal of the retaining wall behind Jimmie Simpson Park Playground area occur overnight?**
 - Metrolinx works closely with the City of Toronto and must abide by their requirements to ensure safety and minimal impacts to park space. This meant that work could only take place when the park was closed, between 12:01 a.m.

- 5 a.m. The Contractor abided by these conditions and completed the work safely. No workaround was available as Metrolinx was required to fulfill the obligations specified in the License Agreement with the City of Toronto. The Contractor worked quickly, and the work was completed in under two hours. The other sections of the retaining wall were demolished during the day to mitigate disruption.

- **Can the community be included in making those decisions with City of Toronto?**
 - Metrolinx will continue to seek community input on project planning wherever feasible.
- **Can we ensure that only the work that is necessary is being done overnight. Can details be provided to post on the LSE CAC Facebook group to provide an explanation?**
 - Metrolinx and the Contractor will continue to make best efforts to minimize the frequency of overnight work. The retaining wall removal at Jimmie Simpson Park was a unique situation - demolition of the other retaining walls will be done during the day. The purpose and reasoning for overnight work is included in the construction notices and weekly overnight work updates.
- **Have the concerns about the lights and vibration near Paisley been checked?**
 - Yes, Metrolinx and the Contractor addressed. The lights were adjusted, and the crews were reminded to be mindful of noise during the overnight period. Metrolinx also offered in-house mitigations to the resident.
- **What happened with the notification for overnight excavation on McGee Street and adjacent to Jimmie Simpson Park? Why was the resident not able to get a timely response, or action from the site managers? The notice was dated August 31, but this work occurred in November, the notices need to be more specific.**
 - The resident received a timely response. The call was returned at 9 a.m. the next day but Metrolinx was unable to contact the resident. Metrolinx managed to contact the resident by phone the day after. Residents can indicate if they prefer to be contacted via email or phone through the call centre.
 - The 24/7 call centre does escalate resident complaints/concerns to the on-site construction manager, however if the construction manager receives a complaint, investigates the situation and confirms work is performing within acceptable plans, the work will continue. An email is then shared with Metrolinx for follow up in the morning.
 - Metrolinx and the Contractor will focus on providing more specific details about overnight work to the community. Weekly updates on overnight work will be provided to ensure the community is well informed of upcoming activities. Information on overnight work will also be captured in the Ontario Line Newsletter.

- **Will the concrete breaking for the Queen Bridge be overnight or during the day?**
 - Demolition work at the Queen St. E. bridge will be done during the day. To ensure public safety, traffic lane and sidewalk closures will be implemented during this activity. One sidewalk will remain open at all times.
- **Will the CLC receive updates on the in-corridor work as part of the weekly overnight notice?**
 - Yes, Metrolinx and the Contractor will include information on the excavation work within the corridor moving forward. Currently the Contractor is piling, excavating, and shoring within the rail corridor to prepare for construction of the new retaining walls. Once the excavation work is completed, a granular pad will be placed to create the foundation for the new retaining wall. Pre-cast concrete blocks will then be installed on top of this foundation. The reason the excavation and shoring are done overnight is because it is not safe to do this work while the trains are running, in case there is any settlement of the ground in the corridor. Metrolinx will work to provide more information on the overnight work between the bridges to ensure the community is aware. This will be recorded as an action item.
- **What can be done about preserving a bike lane under the bridge to protect cyclists trying to get downtown in that busy corridor? As you pass under the bridge drivers' eyes don't always adjust to the light, cyclists are quite vulnerable going under bridges.**
 - Metrolinx works closely with the City of Toronto to ensure traffic plans, including bike detours, comply with regulatory traffic guidelines and bylaws. Metrolinx and the Contractor will review the current traffic staging at the Dundas St. E. bridge to determine if improvements can be made and explore opportunities for maintaining bike lanes. This will be noted as an action item.
- **Is there any monitoring of the merges on both on Logan Avenue and Dundas Street East? It's putting a lot of people's safety in jeopardy by hoping that drivers will adhere to a shared model of the space. The City has given their blessing to this type of setup, is there any additional protection that could be provided by adding some additional marshalling with two schools on the west side of Logan Avenue and Dundas Street East? I know there isn't any signage to tell people how to get through and there was no infrastructure built to protect vulnerable road users.**
 - Metrolinx will take this back as an action item and talk to the project team to make sure the area is safe for cyclists, pedestrians, and all road users.
- **For the T-Wall construction do we know where it is starting?**

- Construction of the new retaining wall will start between Queen St. E. and Dundas St. E. - this section is the longest and will take the most amount of time, which is why it is scheduled to start first. The current plan is to start retaining wall construction at Queen St. E. and progress towards Dundas St. E., then start at Queen St. E. and move towards Eastern Ave., and at the same time work from Dundas St. E. to Logan Ave. Retaining wall construction will take about seven months to complete.

ACTION ITEMS

- Metrolinx to carry over all unresolved action items in the next CLC presentation deck with dates they were originally noted.
- Metrolinx to provide weekly overnight work updates to residents in certain areas by email. An update will be provided every Friday focusing on the overnight. A link will also be provided to allow a post on the local Facebook page.
- Metrolinx and the Contractor to review current traffic designs, specifically bike lane merging practices and confirm if any additional measures can be taken.