

Ontario Line

Pape Riverdale Public Technical Briefing on Upcoming Subsurface Impacts

November 19, 2024, 5:30 PM

Meeting Summary

OVERVIEW

Metrolinx met with residents to discuss construction activities in the neighbourhood. The meeting started with a drop-in style open house where community members were able to review and ask questions about information boards on the upcoming work, impacts of the work and mitigation approaches.

The gathering then shifted to a town hall style question and answer period where residents, Metrolinx and elected officials discussed construction in the community.

DISCUSSION

1. How do we contact the Community Engagement Team?

- Email and phone number information for the CE team is available on all community notices.
- In addition, community members can reach out to the Community Engagement team at **416-202-5100** or by email at ontarioline@metrolinx.com.

2. Why is the event focused on protecting the school, without focus on 369 Pape Ave?

- Metrolinx will host a meeting to discuss construction activities in the area with 369 Pape Ave residents.
- Emergency services can access the building. Poucher St and Pape Ave have 24/7 staff who provide access through the construction zone.
- Noise monitors are placed near worksites and residences to ensure compliance with limits.

3. What is the noise limit for Metrolinx work in the area?

- The limits are:
 - **Daytime:** 85 decibel 10 minute average (dBA)
 - **Nighttime:** 75 dBA
 - **Weekends/Holidays:** 75 dBA (day), 65 dBA (night)
 - For the school, the limits are 69 dBA within the playground.

4. Will there be noise barriers for residents at 369 Pape Ave?

- There are currently no monitors at 369 Pape Ave, but additional monitoring adjacent to the building will be in place before combined sewer and piling construction begins.
- For piling work, Metrolinx will be using new technologies, for example with the auger cleaner that produces less noise when the drill auger it is cleaned compared to typical methods. The tunneling contractor will review other noise mitigation

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options, such as noise barriers, if analyses demonstrate a requirement.

5. Why doesn't construction signage focus more on pedestrians?

- Metrolinx will work to better support signage focused upon pedestrian alongside vehicular needs. Metrolinx will also engage community members through the CLC or other methods to understand how pedestrian signage can be improved.

6. Why is the school safe if the houses on the other side aren't?

- An engineering report on the subway tunneling indicated some risk to expropriated houses but no impact on the school. The main reason there is no impact to the school is because of the distance from the subway tunneling.
- The houses are rigid structures in which cracks in foundations or other structural impacts are possible. The playground does not have such structures and as such is not impacted by TBM activities.
- The school playground is the only area that falls within the exclusion zones during tunnel construction.
- In terms of duration, the first TBM will proceed for 2-3 months, the second TBM will then be staggered by one month and start one month after the first TBM. The TBM will take it's 2-3 month journey leaving the school playground closed for 4-5 months total.
- During that period access to the playground will be restricted as a safety measure.
- The school building is outside of the TBM "zone of influence" and "zone of exclusion".
- The micro-tunneling under the school playground does not create the same type of impact, due to the vast difference in size of the micro-TBM versus subway TBM. The engineering report for the micro-tunnel indicates negligible risk to the playground and school during micro-tunneling which is why an exclusion zone is not required for the micro-tunneling work.

7. Will Metrolinx work with the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) on relocating the school during construction?

Metrolinx will continue working with the TDSB if relocation is necessary.

8. How will Metrolinx mitigate issues with generator noise and dust that are visible at other sections of construction?

Metrolinx will work with the contractor to supply quieter generators and provide extra noise barrier protection around generators and other noise-producing stationary equipment.

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Metrolinx will also work with the contractor to ensure all dust mitigation and suppression measures are in place. Air quality monitoring will continue to ensure the mitigations are effective, and adjustments made to dust controls as necessary.

9. Can Metrolinx hold a Construction Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting focused on upcoming work adjacent to the school?

Metrolinx will host more meetings with the community ahead of construction.

10. Can CLC meetings be made public?

The purpose of a CLC is for committee members who remain consistent and who bring forward community concerns while sharing what they learn to the broader community they represent. A CLC meeting operates better with a smaller representative group. However, with this said, Metrolinx will continue to host public meetings, as necessary.

11. When will the next phase of work begin in the area?

Demolitions south of Langley will start in early 2025. In addition, the launch shaft construction is expected to start early 2025.

12. Is there an engineering report that confirms that residences and the school are safe?

There is an engineering report that covers sewer relocation, micro-tunneling and other major utility construction activities.

The report concluded that it is safe to proceed with utility construction. The report provided recommendations for design and construction execution and those recommendations were factored into the design to ensure work proceeds safely. In addition, those recommendations are written into the contract with Metrolinx's constructor.

Engineer reports are not conducted for activities such as Hydrovac as these are established, standardized and safe construction activities. This type of construction also has a much smaller footprint for excavation.

Metrolinx technical teams are constantly monitoring the ground in various areas and these considerations are incorporated into construction planning.

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13. Can Metrolinx provide renderings of the sub-surface level of where the tunnel will go through?

Metrolinx will explore providing renderings or diagrams for the tunneling activities for the subway.

14. Will Metrolinx increase transparency by funding an independent technical consultant to interpret technical documents and test results?

Community engagement will continue working to increase transparency by maintaining ongoing communication and connections with communities particularly related to construction impacts and safety measures. We are committed to bringing technical experts to meetings to ensure questions can be answered.

ACTION ITEMS

- Hold a focused discussion with residents of 369 Pape Ave that includes representatives from City of Toronto Emergency services, including Toronto Fire.
- Metrolinx to work on improving signage for pedestrians near the construction area.
- Schedule a follow-up CLC meeting before construction starts in January.