

Thorncliffe Park Construction Liaison Committee (CLC) MEETING SUMMARY

November 28, 2024

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES:

Community Representatives

- Lisa Rodopoulos (1 Leaside Park Drive)
- Ahmad El Sarraff (A77)
- Edyth Karwecki (East York Town Centre)
- Jason Ash (Friends of Thorncliffe Park)
- Abdul Jogiat (Islamic Society of Toronto)
- Andy Elder (Leaside Business Park)
- Vanessa Rose (Leaside Business Park)
- Lynn Mcgregor (Leaside Green)
- Vedant Prashad (The Jockey)
- Karma Lhamo (The Neighbourhood Organization)
- Shakhlo Sharipova (Thorncliffe Park Autism Network (TPAN))
- Najia Zewari (Women's Cycling Network)
- Marilyn Wade

Elected Officials/Staff

- Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Stephanie Bowman
- Bob Gillespie (MPP Bowman)
- Kamrana Qureshi (MPP Bowman)
- Rachael Hillier (Councillor Rachel Chernos Lin)
- Patricia Lefebvre (Member of Parliament (MP) Rob Oliphant)
- Mazhar Sharif (MP Oliphant)

City of Toronto

- Sheikh Alam
- Julia Murnaghan
- Michael Paolucci
- Navi Tathgar
- Minoli Warnakulasur

Trillium Guideway Partners

- Stephanie Bell
- Eric Kular
- David Wills

Connect 6

- Georgina Collymore
- Rob Granatstein

Green Infrastructure Partners

- Benny Yu
- Amitai Zand

Metrolinx

- Dami Adebayo
- Tamer Ajab
- Ahmed Al-Obeidi
- Saikat Basak
- Robert Chisholm
- Jim Cumming
- Franca DiGiovanni
- Vincent Domey
- David King
- Malcolm MacKay
- John Potter
- Inam Rehman
- Phil Rodrigues
- Nagina Shahsamand

OVERVIEW:

On November 28, **Metrolinx** hosted the inaugural meeting of the Thorncliffe Park Construction Liaison Committee (CLC), in partnership with **Green Infrastructure Partners** (GIP), **Trillium Guideway Partners** (TGP) and **Connect 6** (C6). Attendees were welcomed to the meeting and the meeting format was explained.

Details of ongoing and planned construction in Thorncliffe Park were presented. Details included the ongoing Advanced Works IV (AWIV) package, construction of the Operation and Maintenance Storage Facility (OMSF) and planned work for the Elevated Guideway and Stations (EGS).

Questions were asked on construction activity, station and guideway designs, traffic congestion, and emergency vehicle access. The questions and responses are outlined below.

QUESTIONS:

- **What is the 24/7 Ontario Line phone line?**
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** The number is 416-202-5100. You can also email ontarioline@metrolinx.com. Please note that after regular working hours the phone line is staffed by an answering service and emergency and critical items are triaged for a response. Non-emergency items are shared with the Community Engagement team to be addressed in the next business day.
- **How will the Ontario Line deal with privacy and noise concerns when it begins operation?**
 - The Ontario Line incorporates noise barriers that provide visual screening in locations adjacent to existing residences. In addition, trains for the Ontario Line will be electric automated vehicles which keep operational noise to a minimal level.
- **Will there be community input on guideway designs for the Ontario Line?**
 - The elevated guideways have undergone a design process for close to four years. **Metrolinx** undertook a comprehensive review of precedents from across North America and Europe to identify best practices and lessons learned that could be applied to the Ontario Line guideways along Overlea Boulevard and Don Mills Road. As a result, community input is limited for the design of the guideways. However, renderings in the deck shared at the meeting are draft renderings as final designs are yet to be concluded.
- **What plans are there to deal with increased traffic congestion from construction in the area?**
 - **Metrolinx** and **GIP** are expediting construction in the area by increasing crew size, working additional hours, including Saturdays, and enhancing traffic management with Paid Duty Officers (PDOs) and Traffic Control Persons (TCPs).

- **How will Metrolinx improve access for emergency vehicles through its construction zone on Overlea Boulevard?**
 - **Metrolinx** consulted Toronto Fire Services (TFS) on the road reconfiguration and concerns of access. In addition, **GIP** submitted a Road Disruption Activity Reporting System (RoDARS) to the City of Toronto as part of its street occupation permit. As a result of this notification, emergency service providers including TFS are aware of construction in the area and will dispatch vehicles from either side of the work zones. GIP also worked with its site foremen and on-site PDO to ensure access for emergency vehicles through the site.
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** A PDO was placed at the Millwood Overlea intersection on December 2 2025, to manage emergency vehicles access and traffic.

- **Will the current phase of construction on Overlea Boulevard be completed before work begins on Beth Neilson Drive?**
 - Construction on Overlea Boulevard will be completed before work is expected to begin on Beth Neilson Drive.

- **Can signage warning of construction activity be placed on before the construction area?**
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** Additional advanced warning signage was installed on December 20th, 2024. These signs are placed outside of the project limits and informs road users of delays expected in the area due to lane restrictions.

- **Is Metrolinx willing to provide open for business signage for the East York Town Centre (EYTC)?**
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** On 2 December 2024. **GIP** provided open for business signage for the EYTC that was placed on temporary fencing near the mall entrance affected by construction.

- **Can the traffic light timings at Millwood Road and Overlea be modified?**
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** Metrolinx and the City of Toronto are reviewing signal timing for intersections from Millwood Road to William Morgan Drive. The current proposal is to increase east and west green times to assist with traffic flow on Overlea Boulevard.

- **What are the mitigations for dust and dirt during utility relocation works?**
 - A street sweeper is utilized during construction hours. GIP installed mudmats within its compound on Thorncliffe Park Drive to limit the amount of mud/dust that is tracked out onto the street.

- **Was working on weekends or overnight considered to avoid work being done during rush hour?**
 - The most efficient time to work is during daytime hours. Material availability, daylight and 'warmer' conditions help crew productivity. Additionally, night work will create noise/vibration which can be disruptive to community members trying to sleep.

- **Can detour signs be provided to reroute thoroughfare traffic?**
 - Additional signage was placed outside the project limits to inform drivers of expected impacts.

- **What are the timelines for lane reductions on Overlea Boulevard and will the guideway constructions have similar traffic impacts?**
 - **Update provided through this meeting summary:** Lane reductions on Overlea Boulevard will continue into spring 2025. On January 6th, 2025, lane reductions moved to the opposite side of the road on the north side of Overlea Boulevard between Millwood Road and Costco, as well as Millwood Road north of Overlea Boulevard. To alleviate traffic impacts, the construction zone will provide a layby area for eastbound Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) buses, reducing transit rider onboarding and deboarding impacts on vehicular traffic.
 - The guideway construction process expects a one lane reduction on the westbound side of Overlea Boulevard.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Metrolinx will provide an update on ongoing conversations regarding traffic light timings at the next CLC.