



WATERFRONToronto

Meeting Minutes

Queens Quay Construction Liaison Committee

Meeting #4 Summary

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Waterfront Toronto – 20 Bay Street

Attendance:

Kelly Gorman (260 Queens Quay West)

Vicki Baron (Waterfront Regeneration Trust)

Kevin Currie (Waterfront BIA)

Kathi Bonner (Brookfield Properties)

Greg Gibb (Waterclub Condos)

Chris Hodgson (Harbourfront Centre)

Clay McFayden (Toronto Cyclist Union)

Aleksandar Petricic (401 Queens Quay W)

Veronica Maggisano (Oxford Properties)

Braz Menezes (York Quay Neighbourhood Association)

Pam Mazza (Toronto Island Community Association)

Jennifer Chan (Councillor Vaughan's Office)

Carol Jolly (Waterfront BIA)

Cindi Vanden Heuvel (Toronto Passenger Vessel Association)

Max Moore (Harbourfront Community Association)

Vesna Saltagic (228/230 Queens Quay West)

Pamela Laite (Toronto Tourism)

Tom Smahel (Toronto Centre for Active Transportation)

Henry Byres (City of Toronto - BIA Office)

James Russell (33, 55, 65, 77/99 Harbour Square)

Blair Ketch (Paws Way)

Dermot McKeown (Radisson Hotel)

Maggie Mu (Toronto Hydro)

David Graham (Toronto Hydro)

Dan Standev (Toronto Hydro)

Tony Pereira (Bell Canada)

Luigi Cifa (Eastern Construction)

Renato Tacconelli (Eastern Construction)

Dave Madeira (Waterfront Toronto)

Michelle Noble (Waterfront Toronto)

Chris Glaisek (Waterfront Toronto)

Andrea Kelemen (Waterfront Toronto)

Simon Karam (Waterfront Toronto)

JD Reeves (Waterfront Toronto)

Jelle Therry (West 8)

Samantha Gileno (Waterfront Toronto)

Pina Mallozzi (Waterfront Toronto)

Yemi Ifegbuyi (Waterfront Toronto)

Robert Pasut (Eastern Construction)

Lee Morrison (Pipeline)

Warren Chow (BA Group)

1) Opening Remarks & Welcome – Chris Glaisek

- Team has been working hard at developing & modifying the construction /staging plan as result of new developments related to hydro and sanitary work.
- Over the past few weeks we have developed an alternative route for the sanitary system which we believe will meet all of Toronto Water requirements and is no longer located in the line of the existing hydro duct.
- This creates efficiencies in our construction process and allows us to proceed with the new sanitary, independent of Hydro's works and tenant negotiations.
- The TTC streetcar will be replaced with bus service as of July 29th2012

Question: When the TTC Street cars stop running, can their signaling lights and system be disabled so not to confuse pedestrians and vehicle drivers on QQ?

Answer: Yes – we will look into that.

- We have made some significant changes to the construction schedule/staging plan but can confirm that with the exception of some tree planting, the majority of works will be completed by September 2014.
- Special emphasis was placed in the scheduling /staging plan to avoid working on the core as much as possible during the summer months.
- Toronto Hydro has hired PLP – Power Line Plus as their contractor.
- Bell Canada has been successful in obtaining a permit for their work and is scheduled for a mid-May start date.

Next Steps:

- We will continue work to refine the DRAFT Construction/Staging Plan.
- At our next CLC meeting in May, we will present any modifications to this plan, and provide more specific details regarding traffic routing and alternative transit routes.
- We have a Central Waterfront Update Meeting scheduled for June 6 and a public “Open House” on Saturday, June 9th.

2) Utility Updates

a. Bell Canada Update – Tony Pereira

- Will begin their portion of work starting mid-May and expect to be completed within 8 weeks.
- Their method will involve “ boring holes” and no manholes will be dug or created. Boring will be done in pairs or couples for each of the six ducts that are currently located along Queens Quay

Question: Is the current cabling paper wrapped or fiber optic?

Answer: Both are in the existing duct banks.

Question: What will become of the two OPI boxes located in the York Street off ramp area/parkette? These are prone to graffiti if left in their current locations.

Answer: Too early to tell, and further investigation has to be completed before a decision is made. If these OPI’s are defaced with graffiti, Bell Canada is responsible for removing graffiti with 48 hours.

b. Toronto Hydro Update – David Graham

- No change to the plans as developed to date.
- Toronto Hydro will start at the west end of QQ at Yo-Yo Ma Blvd. and continue east to Yonge Street.
- Most of Toronto Hydro work is located under the planned Martin Goodman Trail
- Some excavation work is expected as new chambers are developed, however, anticipate no disruption to services to residences and businesses as only one feeder will be de-commissioned or transitioned at any time.

3) Layby Snow Removal By-Law & Plan – Jelle Therry - West8

- The snow removal plan for QQ has been submitted to the City of Toronto.
- Jelle was looking for input from the group about whether snow should be cleared from the laybys during the winter season or if it should be left to accumulate.
 - o If the snow is cleared, it means that parking would not be permitted between midnight and 6am
- Most of the group agreed that the laybys should be cleared of snow
- Some stores have night deliveries that will use the laybys. BIA to investigate.

4) **Phasing & Staging Update – Luigi Cifa, ECCL**

- Luigi presented draft site plans for 9 construction sequences and distributed a draft staging matrix
- The sanitary system and work will begin sooner.

Questions that were raised for each sequence of the Construction Plan are noted as follows:

Sequence # 1a.

Question: Can you please describe the term “bore hole”, its size and dimensions?

Answer: Bore holes are related to the work that Bell Canada will do on this project. Bell will start at the Radisson/Paws Way areas and head west on QQ. There is work starting at Robertson Street heading east as well.

- Pits will be approximately 2m in diameter, and will take up most of a lane of traffic once the respective safety fence, and pylons are placed around each one.
- Once each pit and its associated work is completed, they will be backfilled with the material that was originally excavated.
- Expected duration for this work for Bell Canada is eight weeks but each location will be 2-3 days work.

Question: Will bicycle path & access be disrupted during these activities, and if so, can signs be posted prior to these disruptions, and also indicating the length of the disruption?

Answer: Yes, there will be disruptions occurring to both the bicycle and vehicle/lane closure during this and other construction sequences. Detailed traffic management details have yet not been finalized for each sequence. However, once we have these established, posting of lane and bike closures will be placed prior to and at each disruption to regular traffic flows.

Sequence #1b:

- Toronto Hydro work will predominately be done in the south-side lanes of Queens Quay and will proceed in 30m increments.

Note: That the Harbourfront Festival is set for June 21st-24th this year.

- It will occur over a two weekday and two weekend period of time.
- We expect crowds and visitors to reach 500,000 for this festival. Can we expect and ask that the construction areas be clean and tidy during this and other festivals?
- Yes, ECCL has already scheduled cleanup of all construction activities each day of construction for this project. We will pay special attention to all the major events during the duration of the project.
- As you know, the ECCL Construction schedule has had numerous revisions as we incorporated the concerns of all parties, especially around special events, and the “core” summer season.

Question: Samantha, are you communicating to the Parks department with the City of Toronto?

Answer: Yes, a Major Events Planner is being compiled and produced and will be circulated to all parties once it is completed.

- The sanitary work during this sequence will be from east to west starting at York St. This work is approximately 600m in length. Work will progress in 6-8m portions/phases and be enveloped in a 100m fenced and staging area as it proceeds.
- The westbound lanes from Bay to Rees will need to be closed for this work package.
- We hope to complete the layby and taxi stands area first if possible, but this is dependent on the work permits and approvals.

Question: We have concerns regarding the amount of traffic flowing north bound on York Street during the Sept to Nov period of this sequence.

Answer: We will be doing more traffic management planning as we develop the final construction plan, but we do have traffic in this area set for “local traffic ONLY” to accommodate for Ellis Don, 10/20 Bay Street, etc. However, we will not have any daily policing for this traffic.

Question: We have concerns regarding the construction area adjacent to Harbour Square during this sequence. Directly west of Bay Street, there is a loading zone for tenants moving furniture in/out. Can we avoid restricting the trucks parking along the road & building?

Answer: We recognize these concerns and will reduce the construction zone to accommodate for these moving trucks, but this will need to be coordinated in other stages

Question: What is the cycling plan for this sequence?

Answer: There will be localized/specific signage posted for the areas that are affected during the various sequences of the construction plan. These signs will indicate the exact location & length of the disruption. For example: That cyclists must dismount & walk their bikes the specified distance (metres). We also plan to strategically post signage from one end of construction to the other that advises the general public visiting the QQ area of the conditions for riding/walking their bicycles.

Sequence #1c:

- This is the zone where the work by ECCL from the east, and Toronto Hydro from the west, meet. It will be a busy area for a period of time as the work packages occur simultaneously.
- This is also the time that the TTC ROW – Right of Way will be re-constructed.

Question: Will there be lane closures?

Answer: Yes, there will be, and this cannot be avoided. However, there are planned diversion routes that compensate for this situation, and will be scheduled and communicated to the QQ community.

Question: Can you please clarify the construction term of “de-watering”?

Answer: Due to the composition of this soil structure of this area and proximity to the lake, when a trench is excavated, there is the likelihood that water will seep and fill the trench/pit. Pumps are required to be setup to run constantly to remove the water from the soil so that the construction crews can work safely during the daytime hours.

Question: How loud are these pumps, and can we mitigate the noise they make while running?

Answer: We can investigate options, there are both diesel and electric pumps available. There may be additional methods available to “baffle” the sound from these pumps. We will investigate and communicate to all.

Sequence # 1d:

- We are now at the Feb-April 2013 time frame on our construction schedule and this is the demarcation for the TTC Loop around the Shoppers Drug Mart area of QQ.
- At this point in time, we will have the resumption of TTC Streetcars as well.

Question: Can you please describe what we can expect in the work area of a “chamber”?

- Typically, it is a 20 x20 fenced and secured area, which has a number of different crews and equipment operating. Toronto Hydro will be using three chamber crews, and two duct bank crews for the QQ project.

Question: We notice that there is no representation today by the operators of the ferry boats and services to the Toronto Islands.

Answer: These services are provided through the City of Toronto. We meet with the City on a regular basis, and will ask for ferry representation, going forward.

Question: With the traffic routing and diversions, what can we expect for the width of the temporary pedestrian walk areas? Typically, the minimum is 1.5m.

Sequence #2a:

- This is work that will occur in two work packages. The first is during the months of April to July, and the second is from July to October.
- ECCL will attempt to perform the work prior to the “high summer season” for the QQ community.

Note: There will be a Bi-Centennial and Tall Ships festival during this phase of construction in June 2013. Exact dates are the 20th to 23rd.

- We expect visitors and crowds to range from 500,000 to 1 million during this four day event.
- You should also note that there is a nine day “window” of preparation and tear-down for this special event.
- Noted, and will be incorporated into the event calendar for the QQ area and construction project.

Sequence # 2b:

- There are three work/construction packages associated for this sequence. Please refer to the staging plan matrix for details.

Sequence # 3a,b,c:

- The sequence of work for these phases are more in the final construction activities associated with the far west-end of Queens Quay by Rees, Spadina, and Yo-Yo Ma.
- The timeframe for these phases occur from Jan 2014 through to June 2015. The final sequence is with respect to the granite installations which will occur in 2014 and tree planting in spring 2015..
- All work should be completed well in advance of the Pan-Am Games.

Closing Remarks & Questions:

- Chris Glaisek and the Waterfront Toronto team wish to thank everyone for their participation in the work completed to date. This will be an exciting time for this Queens Quay community.
- Members and attendees appreciate and acknowledge the complexity of this project, addressing all the concerns of the community and neighbours, and incorporating them into this construction plan.