



**Construction Liaison Group, Meeting #4**  
**Leslie Barns & Leslie Connection Track**  
November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Facilitated By:**

Jim Faught, Lura Consulting

**Attended By:**

***Community Members:***

Gabriela Byron, Ron Chapman, Caron Court , Mike Jones, Vivien Leong, Allegra MacDonald , Jo Oppenheimer, Chris Sidlar, Chris Wong,

***City of Toronto:***

Martin Maguire

***City Councillors:***

Susan Serran (EA Councillor Fletcher)

***TTC Project Team:***

David Nagler, Elizabeth Garkowski, Niki Angelis, Paris Savides, Adrienne Long, Charles Lee, Muhammad Saghir, Justin Chin (Aecom)

***Contractor:***

Melissa Montgomery, Stephane Bernard

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*These meeting minutes were prepared by TTC community liaison staff. These minutes are not intended to provide verbatim accounts of discussions. Rather, they summarize and document the key points made during the discussions, as well as the outcomes and actions arising from the CLG meetings.*

**Welcome and Agenda Review**

Jim Faught outlined the agenda for the meeting that included an update on work completed the date, the follow up to action items from the previous CLG meeting, the community relations update and an overview of construction phasing. Mr. Faught asked the group if they had any feedback from the previous meeting's minutes and if any comments needed to be added. None were reported. David Nagler then began the presentation.



## Work To Date

David Nagler gave an overview of the work completed to date related to Leslie Barns facility itself as well as works that are in progress that include:

- Sheetpiling work to stabilize soil and limit dewatering on Leslie Street from Lake Shore Blvd to the middle of the plaza intersection.
- Sewer cleaning on Commissioners Street
- Sanitary Sewer connection work on Mosley Street
- Streetscaping work on pockets of Queen Street at the corners of Hastings, Curzon and Rushbrooke

## CLG Discussion Period

The CLG is a forum for open discussion. As such, questions were posed throughout David's presentation. Questions are indicated with a Q, answers with an A, and Comments with a C. Answers were provided by the members from the Leslie Barns project team and City of Toronto. Questions that require follow up will be added to action items.

## Action Items from CLG #3

An overview of the "Action Items" from the previous CLG meeting was presented by David Nagler. The following action items from the previous CLG meeting were addressed.

**Action Item No 1:** *Contractor to ensure that plating is installed correctly and noise limited as much as possible when vehicles cross.*

**Response:** Contractor reminded of previous plating (that was corrected), will ensure plates are installed securely with ongoing inspection to avoid unnecessary noise.

**Action Item No. 2:** *Signage should be developed to let motorists know that the plazas are still accessible from Leslie north.*

**Response:** "Businesses Open" signage has been created and placed at Eastern and Leslie

**Action Item No. 3:** *Contractor to ensure that flagman are always present when gates to construction zone are open.*

**Response:** Complete and ongoing. The contractor re-directed own team and sub-contractors that a flag person must be present at all times when any gate to a construction zone is open.

**Action Item No. 4:** *The Audible Pedestrian signal at Lake Shore and Leslie is beeping even during advanced greens and should be investigated.*



**Response:** City inspected to ensure the audible pedestrian signal is functioning properly.

Constant “beeping” is not the “crossing sound” but helps visually impaired individuals locate the pedestrian button. Once pressed, the correct crossing sounds are activated. A City representative visited the intersection and confirmed that all four corners are functioning properly.

**Action Item No. 5:** *Ensure Port Lands businesses (and greater community) given a minimum of one week notice for the partial closure of Commissioners and Leslie.*

**Response:** Notice will be provided to both businesses and wider community as soon as a date is confirmed.

Wider communication including signage, media release coordinated between City Transportation and TTC.

**Action Item No. 6:** *Traffic counts done prior to the beginning of construction should be made available at the next CLG Meeting and data from the new traffic counts should be presented as soon as available.*

**Response:** Traffic counts were conducted in the Spring of 2013 to establish a base count before construction.

New counts for all remaining streets scheduled for the week of November 10 (major roads and residential including Woodfield). Knox Avenue completed.

**Action Item No. 7:** *In the event of late night or unexpected emergency work, the name and cell phone number for the on-site engineer and/or inspector will be provided.*

**Response:** Contact information provided for on-site TTC representatives for late night/any emergency work.

**Action Item No. 8:** *Provide further detail on mitigation measures for noise and dust to be taken by contractor during construction.*

**Response:** The contractor is responsible for ongoing monitoring of noise and dust pollution in and around the construction site.

### **Dust Mitigation**

- Daily site inspections to identify potential areas of concern based on predicted daily weather reports. Inspection frequency increase in hot, dry weather
- Wash down of streets within the Work Site.
- Watering of site roads
- Tarping of soil (e.g. Leslie Barns site)
- Review all activities to identify additional dust generation and implement proactive control measures. Examples include, but are not limited to:



- o Tarp trucks when they leave the site
- o Wet cutting when cutting concrete

### Noise Mitigation

- Intake and exhaust silencers on air equipment and mufflers on internal combustion engines.
- ••Position noise producing equipment at maximum distance from public areas and sensitive receptors.
- •Equipment constantly maintained to limit noise
- •Pile driving activities limited to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday to Friday and 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, Saturday, if schedule permits.
- •Other noise control measures

(e.g. hoarding installed adjacent to piling on Leslie)

### Window Washing

Plan is in development for properties facing the construction – residential and business (1<sup>st</sup> and second floors)

#### Window Washing Coordination

- Once plan confirmed, TTC community liaisons will contact property owners to receive written permission for the contractor to carry out window washing. Washing would commence in spring to avoid potential freezing.

## Q&A

Q1: There is a generator that runs constantly beside Loblaws and is noisy; are there ways to reduce the noise?

A1: Due to existing soil conditions, the generator must run constantly to keep water out of the work zone/tunnel which would otherwise flood (although it is off on the weekends). However, the TTC project team will look into ways of mitigating the noise of the generator as much as possible. **(Action Item 1)\***.

*\*Since this issue was raised at the CLG meeting, a plywood/styrofoam barrier has been placed around the generator at Mosley and the sound is reduced. It was installed two days after the CLG meeting. Additional covering was installed on November 20<sup>t</sup> after follow-up concern expressed.*

Q2: Will there be water shut offs again during dinner time? (Relating to scheduled water shut off for residents on Mosley and Leslie Streets that occurred on Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup>)

A2: The particular water shut off was extended for 2.5 hours due to unforeseen conditions found in the work zone. Notice was given to each resident in person as soon as the CLOs were informed of the emergency work. Water was provided to residents. A request to have this type of notification emailed out was requested. The CLOs will email notices to those residents who have provided an email address and will continue to go door-to-door in emergency situations. As soon as additional information is confirmed regarding any future watermain upgrades or valve replacement that requires water shut-offs, it will be communicated ASAP.



**(Post meeting note from Construction Team)** Typically, hooking up a new main requires shutoffs on two separate days between hours of 9am-6pm. Shutoffs during dinner hours will try to be avoided but may occur. Existing mains are over 80 years old and must be replaced. Many Toronto Water valves uncovered are broken and need repair which requires shutting down service temporarily.

Q3: With respect the Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS), the north/south crossing has been shortened but there is still a significant distance to walk before the actual crossing. Those who are visually impaired have to initiate the APS from the corner and may not be aware that the sidewalk is protected for half of the crossing. This has to be fixed ASAP.

A3: The City is working to resolve the issue and will follow up with Councillor Fletcher's office if the issue requires further assistance **(Action Item 2)\*\***

*\*\* City staff reinstated the full north-south pedestrian crossing time to ensure that visually impaired pedestrians are provided with sufficient walk time*

Q4: Do you expect there to be dust when the work zone is outside of people's homes?

A4: Yes. There will be dust in the work zone. The contractor must mitigate dust through the measures mentioned, including wet concrete cutting, street sweeping, watering, truck wheel washing etc.

Q5: Will dust monitors be placed near homes? Right now they are all south of Lake Shore Boulevard.

A5: There are 3 monitors that are mobile and can move as the construction zone shifts. The project team will ensure a dust monitor is placed north of the plazas close to homes. **(Action Item 3)**

Q6: How far will sheet piling go?

A6: The sheet piling will not go further north than the plaza entrances.

## Signage & Safety

Thanks to the CLG and other local residents, additional safety features have been added to the pedestrian and cyclist crossing surrounding the work zone. Larger stop signs and more speed humps were added to the temporary accesses located on Lake Shore Blvd. A solid white line has been added to the shortened north-south pedestrian crossing at the Leslie and Lake Shore intersection for added safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Q7: Vehicles stopped at the light (travelling east-west) often do not stop behind the pedestrian crossing. Is it possible to paint lines so vehicles know where to stop?

A7: Yes. Lines will be painted at crosswalk. **(Action Item 4)**

C8: The dismount and walk signage at the Leslie/Lake Shore intersection is not consistent (currently visible for those crossing from the north only).

A8: The dismount and walk signs will be placed for those crossing from the south. **(Action Item 5)**



C9: Some vehicles are still not yielding to pedestrians and cyclists at the temporary accesses.

A9: The project team will investigate sending out PDOs intermittently to issue tickets to drivers who do not stop. The City is also looking to add additional speed humps within the City right-of-way just outside the plazas for vehicles entering the temporary plazas from Lake Shore. **(Action Item 6 &7)**

C10 (community member 1): The addition of the speed humps on *both* sides of the plaza entrances after the cyclist walks have received great feedback from the cycling community (via social networks)

C10 (community member 2): The cyclists behavior at the north side crossing is dangerous, they do not dismount and stop for pedestrians and I find it unsafe.

C10 (community member 3): Is it possible to create better signage for the north crossing. Perhaps a sign that indicates the path is narrow and to indicate cyclists to “slow down, no passing”.

A10: New signage indicating a narrow/shared path will be developed. **(Action Item 8)**

## Project Overview Presentation

An overview of construction phasing was presented by David Nagler that outlined the current and anticipated road closures and lane reductions that the contractor is implementing.

David informed the CLG of potential changes to the current phased closure on Leslie Street from the project team. The Project Team and contractor are investigating ways to open Leslie Street to two lanes of traffic to accommodate the holiday shopping season (beginning Dec 1<sup>st</sup>). The two lanes of traffic would have to be closed again in January to complete the work in the area.

Q11: If the lanes open for December 1<sup>st</sup>, will work hours be extended and will weekend work be required?

A11: Work hours are not planned to be extended. Typical work hours are 7a.m. to 7p.m. with some extensions. Weekend work may occur if required and will follow the same work hours that are presently employed for weekend work. Piling is not allowed after 7pm.

Q12: What is the plan to get back on schedule?

A12: The project team and contractor will investigate ways to stay on schedule. One option may be to close two lanes on Leslie from Lake Shore to Eastern and complete work that is required in future stages earlier.

Q13: When will we get schedule for this work?

A13: The project team and contractor will finalise a new time line for the required work as soon as possible. **(Action Item 9)**

C15 (David Nagler): The news of this potential change to phasing was brought to my attention two days ago and this group is the first to have heard about it. The Project Team and contractor are working to



minimize the future impact of the delay but commitments were made to the plaza businesses last year to have lanes opened up for the holiday season for community access to shopping and we are trying to accommodate that.

C15 (Community Member 1): It seems like there is a lot of preference or favouritism to businesses with this project. Signage is created for businesses, motorists and cyclists and nothing is done for the residences. It also seems like you have meetings specifically for the Plazas to accommodate their business.

C15 (David Nagler): I do not think that is fair. Whenever a complaint is made by a resident we have worked to resolve it. . There is no preferential treatment between residents and businesses. The people in this room representing residents and businesses were the first to hear of any *potential* change. We want to accommodate both resident and business concerns and will meet with any residents or businesses any time to discuss ways to reduce impacts.

C15 (Community Member 2): As a resident of the Marigold Condominium, the TTC made themselves available to meet and discuss impact to the residents of our building during construction.

C15 (David Nagler): We will always make ourselves available for such meetings and that is why we have a dedicated Community Liaison staff located in the area.

C15 (Community Member 1): I think a meeting should be held as soon as possible once the final plans are made.

C15 (David Nagler): Absolutely. We will hold a meeting as soon as details are worked out for further discussion.

C16: Pedestrians ignore the diverted walk way around the work zone at Leslie and Mosley and walk into traffic instead. Is there a way to create a better/protected walkway.

A16: The nature of the work at Mosley may not allow enough room to create a protected walk way but the project team will investigate. (**Action Item 10**)

## Traffic Management Update

Martin Maguire of City Transportation presented an update on the traffic management plan for the Leslie Barns and Connection Track from the previous CLG Meeting:

- The parking prohibition from 4p.m. to 6p.m. on Carlaw was approved by Community Council
- The “no right on red” at Lake Shore and Carlaw was overturned and has to be approved at the next City Council meeting\*\*
- Temporary cameras are installed at Queen and Leslie, Eastern and Leslie, Lake Shore and Leslie and at Unwin and Leslie.

Q17: What about the request for a no right on red at the Leslie and Lake Shore intersection (travelling north, turning east on Lake Shore)?



A17: The City deemed it is not a problem but if a problem exists we will take it back for review. (**Action Item 11**)

Q18: How does snow impact work? Will snow be removed or pushed to the side of sidewalks and bike trails?

A18: The contractor is required to remove snow from their work zone.

Jim Faught closed the discussion period by thanking those who attended. A date for the next CLG Meeting was proposed for early December or as soon as updates to phasing are received.

Meeting adjourned.

### Action Items

- 1) The TTC project team will look into ways of mitigating the noise of the generator at Mosley Street.  
*\*Since this issue was raised at the CLG meeting, a plywood/styrofoam barrier has been placed around the generator at Mosley and the sound is reduced*
- 2) The City is working to resolve the issue with the Audible Pedestrian Signals and will follow up with Councillor Fletcher's office if the issue requires further assistance.  
*\*\* City staff made the decision to reinstate the full north-south pedestrian crossing time to ensure that visually impaired pedestrians are provided with sufficient walk time*
- 3) The project team will ensure a dust monitor is placed north of the plazas as soon as possible.
- 4) Lines will be painted at Leslie & Lake Shore intersection
- 5) The dismount and walk signs will be placed for those crossing from the south.
- 6) The project team will investigate sending out PDOs intermittently to issue tickets to drivers who do not stop.
- 7) The City is looking to add additional speed humps for vehicles entering the temporary plazas from Lake Shore.
- 8) New signage indicating a narrow/shared path will be developed for the north crossing at Leslie/Lake Shore Blvd.
- 9) The project team and contractor will finalise a new time line for the required work in the Phase A closure as soon as possible.
- 10) The project team will investigate the options for improving the pedestrian crossing at Mosley and Leslie.
- 11) The City will review the installation of a temporary construction sign to indicate "no right on red" for Leslie and Lake Shore (northbound and turning right onto Lake Shore).