



**Construction Liaison Group, Meeting #9**  
**Leslie Barns & Leslie Connection Track**  
May 1, 2014

**Facilitated By:**

Jim Faught, Lura Consulting

**Attended By:**

**Community Members:**

Adriano Costa, Michael Holloway, Vivien Leong, Allegra MacDonald, Janet MacDonald, Jo Oppenheimer

**City of Toronto:**

Martin Maguire (Transportation Services)

**TTC:**

Elizabeth Garkowski, Niki Angelis, Paris Savides, David Nagler, Charles Lee, Kenneth Hui, Les Kelman, Kenneth Hui, Henry Chai, Justin Chin (Aecom)

**Contractor (Pomerleau):**

Melissa Montgomery, Christian Herbert , Marc Blanchet

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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, work days and scheduling, the follow up to action items from the previous CLG meeting an overview of upcoming preliminary construction phasing and the Queen & Leslie intersection closure. Jim asked the group if there were any outstanding issues from the previous meeting that they would like to discuss. None were voiced. Jim then turned the attention to David Nagler to commence the presentation.



## Work To Date

David gave an overview of the work currently taking place in the closure area and other sites on Leslie Street including the progress of streetscaping at Hastings, Curzon and Rushbrooke. It was flagged by a CLG member that during streetscaping, workers blocked the crosswalk button at Curzon and asked that the contractor be mindful of such things in future. TTC staff indicated this would be avoided in future. Further to the overview, David discussed the action items proposed at the previous CLG Meeting.

### **The 10 Action Items from the *previous* CLG Meeting were discussed:**

**Action Item No. 1:** Projected schedule of weekend work to be reported back at the next CLG. Schedule to show a worst case scenario and how often work weekend is projected and where

**Response:** As per the contractor, it is very difficult to forecast weekend activity at this time. Both the activity and location are highly dependent upon what is accomplished during each work week. It is possible weekend work may occur at any given work zone depending on issues such as: 1) meeting schedule; 2) weather conditions causing delays; 3) unforeseen underground conditions and urgent work/repairs.

For example, urgent work was undertaken on Sunday, April 13 to bury a temporary watermain at Marigold Gardens' gate. Updates will be provided on weekend work plans during future phases.

**Action Item No. 2:** Pomerleau to review ASAP lowering sheet piles at the south east corner of Leslie and Lake Shore. This is to improve pedestrian safety by improving visibility.

**Response:** Sheet piles were lowered to the lowest level they could safely go while stabilizing the soil.

**Action Item No. 3:** Provide update on the crosswalk painting, sheet piles, advance green for Leslie/Lake Shore Intersection (particularly if sheet piles are not lowered) and Queen/Leslie crossing guard.

**Response:** Update provided to CLG on April 14<sup>th</sup> outlining crosswalk repainting and sheet pile cutting completed. Signal not changed by City Transportation, after sight lines were improved by sheet pile lowering.

**Action Item No. 4:** *Request Crossing Guard from Toronto Police.* Follow up with local schools to determine if they have summer programs running. Provide info to Toronto Police to obtain a crossing guard at the Leslie / Queen intersection.

**Response:** The following response was provided from Toronto Police Traffic Safety Department, turning down TTC's request.

A crossing guard is only placed at a location after a survey has considered the following:

- Traffic flow and volume
- Number of elementary aged school children crossing, escorted and alone
- Other elements affecting vehicular/pedestrian activity.



Police Survey (8:00am - 9:00am): 22 elementary aged children crossed with 15 supervised by an adult

Lunch Time Survey (11:30am - 12:30p.): no children crossed

Dismissal Time Survey (15:00 – 15:50): 16 elementary aged children crossed with 13 supervised by an adult.

- “Traffic flow was heavy but orderly. There was a paid duty officer at the location who assisted all pedestrians crossing the roadway. It is anticipated that a paid duty officer will be on site during the construction.”
- As a result of the above observations Police advised that they will not provide an Adult School Crossing Guard at this location.

*TTC has escalated the request.*

**Action Item No. 5:** Request for contingency parking plan for private driveways (Marigold Gardens underground garage) in event of short term blockages.

**Response:** Pomerleau to approach Loblaws and Freshco regarding emergency parking rental. (Update: neither plaza could provide parking. As contingency, parking elsewhere will be re-imbursed with submission of receipt, if a private garage or private driveway is blocked.)

**Action Item No. 6:** Re-evaluate signage requirements for Leslie / Queen Intersection and Leslie Street

**Response:** Signage during the sidewalk construction (test pits) has shifted from day to day based on required work. TTC is preparing new signage (separate from the contractor’s signs) to improve directions for upcoming construction at Queen/Leslie. Signage placed each of 4 closure points at intersection.

Pomerleau to provide additional flagpersons during sidewalk construction.

**Action Item No. 7:** Police blitz to be ordered for the plaza intersection and temporary accesses to address safety.

**Response:** Police blitz ordered on Saturday, May 3 for the Lake Shore temp accesses and driveways.

**Action Item No. 8:** Obtain a pick-up/drop-off space for 10 minutes on Queen Street (with City approval) or in The Duke Parking lot for Marigold Gardens Condo as gates will be blocked. TTC will approach The Duke again about their parking lot

**Response:** Two spaces reserved within Duke Lot for 15 minutes for condo deliveries. *Signage has since been installed*

**Action Item No. 9:** Advise CLG as soon as TTC Service Planning schedules report on streetcar stops (including any removals) for Queen Street

**Response:** TTC Service Planning indicated they are --and will be-- consulting with City Councillors and reporting to the TTC Board on May 28<sup>th</sup> regarding modifications they are recommending to streetcar stops in an effort to improve customer safety. Report iposted at:



[http://www.ttc.ca/About\\_the\\_TTC/Commission\\_reports\\_and\\_information/Commission\\_meetings/2014/May\\_28/Supplementary\\_Agenda/index.jsp](http://www.ttc.ca/About_the_TTC/Commission_reports_and_information/Commission_meetings/2014/May_28/Supplementary_Agenda/index.jsp)

**Action Item No. 10:** Provide details on window washing and the schedule.

**Response:** Window washing of units fronting the construction will be scheduled starting in May. Only Units/properties with written permission from tenants/property owners will be washed.

## Construction Phasing Update

An overview of construction phasing was presented that outlined the current and upcoming/anticipated work including the scheduled 6 week Queen and Leslie intersection closure. Phasing plans will be updated for the next CLG in June.

## CLG Discussion Period

The CLG is a forum for open discussion. As such, questions were posed throughout the 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 Transportation staff. Questions that require follow up will be added to action items.

C1: With respect to overnight and weekend work, we recognise that there will be unforeseen circumstances with construction that may result in changes to the schedule. What we would like to see is contingency and worst case scenarios to be built into scheduling and more notice of any changes. Signage and safety needs to be comprehensively considered. Even after a safety walk, action items are addressed, but new ones pop up a few days later.

A1: The TTC will enforce the contractor to maintain accurate signage with each phase change or daily work activity, and provide contingency plans for worst case scenarios. (**Action Item No. 1**)

C2: There have been instances at Eastern and Leslie where open/closed sidewalks have not been properly signed. .

A2: The contractor will ensure that, signage/flag people are present when a sidewalk must be closed, for example during excavation when areas are fenced off.

C3: There are pylons by the Marigold Gardens driveway, sometimes they get moved overnight and block the access.

A3: Pomerleau/TTC site inspectors will ensure pylons throughout the site are placed to provide safe access. We have received reports of people moving some pylons and signs after the bars close late at night and will move back into proper locations.

Q4: Garbage/recycling collection has been spotty since the road closures on Leslie. The areas of concern are from Marigold Gardens, and homes on Leslie south of Queen. How is this being improved?



A4: It is a contractual obligation that Pomerleau manages and ensures garbage is collected each week by relocating and returning bins. TTC to ensure garbage management is conducted properly by the contractor (**Action Item No. 2**)

C5: Upcoming closure includes the Queen and Leslie intersection on May 11. A Safety Walk will be planned shortly after the closure (**Action Item No. 3**)

C6: The traffic shift on Lake Shore could take place as soon as May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will require new signage and should be added to Coxwell to warn cyclists that the Martin Goodman Trail will be diverted south at Leslie Street (**Action Item No. 4**)

C6: A Safety Walk will be planned for the Leslie/Lake Shore shift as soon as possible (**Action Item No. 5**)

C7: The tree protection on Queen is too big and obstructs the sidewalk

A7: The tree protection will be adjusted as soon as possible (**Action Item No. 6**)

Q8: During the intersection closure, how will people know which businesses are open and how to get to them?

A8: TTC community liaisons have created maps and signage with businesses names and directional maps to be installed upon closure (**Action Item No.7**). They are also working with the BIA to promote and encourage people to visit and shop Leslieville.

C9: (David Nagler): Separate from the Leslie Barns work, but coordinated with it, the TTC will be doing rail replacement work at streetcar stops on Queen. The stops will be done one at a time and take approximately 3 to 4 days to complete. Traffic lanes will be reduced at each location to create a safe work zone, and on-street parking will be temporarily restricted within the work areas. For more details and timelines visit the link:

[http://www.ttc.ca/Service\\_Advisories/Construction/Rail\\_replacement\\_at\\_.jsp](http://www.ttc.ca/Service_Advisories/Construction/Rail_replacement_at_.jsp)

TTC Operations scheduled the repairs to stops along Queen now, as streetcar service is re-routed to Gerrard during the Queen/Leslie closure.

Jim Fought closed the discussion period by thanking those who attended. A date for the next CLG was set for Thursday June 5th, at the South Riverdale Community Health Centre. The venue could not accommodate this date. The CLG Meeting #10 will be scheduled at South Riverdale Community Health Centre at an alternate date.

Meeting adjourned.



### Action Items

- 1) The TTC will direct the contractor to maintain accurate signage with each phase change or daily work activity.
- 2) TTC to ensure garbage management is implemented effectively by the contractor.
- 3) A Safety Walk will be planned shortly after the Queen/Leslie Intersection closure (*held May 14 2014*).
- 4) New signage to be installed for the Lake Shore traffic shift, including signs at Coxwell (*installed*)
- 5) A Safety Walk will be planned for the Leslie/Lake Shore shift as soon as possible
- 6) The tree protection fencing will be adjusted as soon as possible to provide more sidewalk space (*completed May 2*)
- 7) Directional signage/businesses open signage to be installed once Queen/Leslie closure in place (*completed by May 12*)

### Community Feedback Log

A CLG member requested a summary of construction feedback and complaints between CLG meetings to be presented. The following log shows the concerns raised by the community in the last month:

| Topic                               | Concern   | Action  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Vibration</b>                    | There were vibration concerns received from a home on Leslie Street .   | Vibration data is monitored by a third party surveyor. Alerts are received if vibration data exceeds MOE limits. The vibration data was pulled on the days complaints were made and provided to the home owner. The report showed there were instances of “perceptible” levels of vibration but no overages. If vibration data exceeds MOE limits work must stop. |
| <b>Garbage Collection</b>           | Issues with garbage collection at homes on Leslie south of Eastern Avenue. Bins not collected or not returned in a timely manner. | Contractor ordered to rectify. Residents were advised to place bins out by 10 a.m. and contractor has committed to returning bins by 6 p.m. Ongoing monitoring and enforcement of contractor compliance.  |
| <b>Safety &amp; Sidewalk Access</b> | Southside Crosswalk at Eastern and Leslie was removed without adequate space for pedestrians to cross with light on south side.   | Flag person ordered to assist pedestrians to cross north-south sidewalk on the east side, work zone altered to re-instate crosswalk on same day as soon as safely possible  |



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|  | <p>Sidewalk on Leslie between Eastern and Queen impacted by construction with closure points. Flag person not assisting pedestrians properly.</p> <p>A panel of fencing felled by wind on Leslie south of Eastern on April 29</p> | <p>Upon receipt of complaint, spoke with flag person on site to immediately assist pedestrians until asphalt arrived. Sidewalks restored by end of work day.</p> <p>Pomerleau immediately re-inspected all fencing throughout area. TTC and contractor's safety officer verified safety of all fencing. Fence panel immediately re-instated and secured</p> |
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