



March 2006 Edition



In this issue

- [Welcome](#)
- [West Don Lands Hotline](#)
- [West Don Lands Kick-Off Event](#)
- [Building Deconstruction and Flood Protection Landform](#)
- [Road Closures](#)
- [West Don Lands Transit EA](#)
- [Soil, Groundwater and Environmental Management](#)
- [Don River Park](#)
- [CN Kingston Bridge Extension and Bala Pedestrian Underpass](#)

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of West Don Lands News. TWRC is very pleased to be able to provide the community with monthly updates on the progress of the West Don Lands revitalization project, Toronto's first new waterfront community. This electronic newsletter is brought to you in partnership with the Canada, Ontario and City of Toronto governments, along with the Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC), Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) and Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), all of whom are playing an important role in the revitalization of the West Don Lands. We look forward to keeping you informed.

West Don Lands Hotline

TWRC has set up a dedicated telephone line so that the public can get easy access to information about the work going on in the West Don Lands. For more information, please call 416-214-9990 or email wdl@twaterfront.ca.

West Don Lands Kick-Off Event

Work is now underway in the West Don Lands. To commemorate this important milestone, on March 27 at 9:00 a.m. TWRC, in partnership with its community and federal, provincial and city government partners will host a kick-off event. This event will take place at 645 King Street East. This location is noteworthy not only because it is a significant gateway into this new mixed-use community but it will also be part of the future 19-acre Don River Park. The event will be open to everyone so watch for more details at www.twaterfront.ca.

Building Deconstruction and Flood Protection Landform

Contractors are mobilizing on site to start the deconstruction of 16 buildings to allow for the construction of the low-lying berm that will provide flood protection for the area, the realignment of Bayview Avenue, the extension of River Street and the development of the first new West Don Lands neighbourhood on the McCord site. You will now begin to see construction workers,

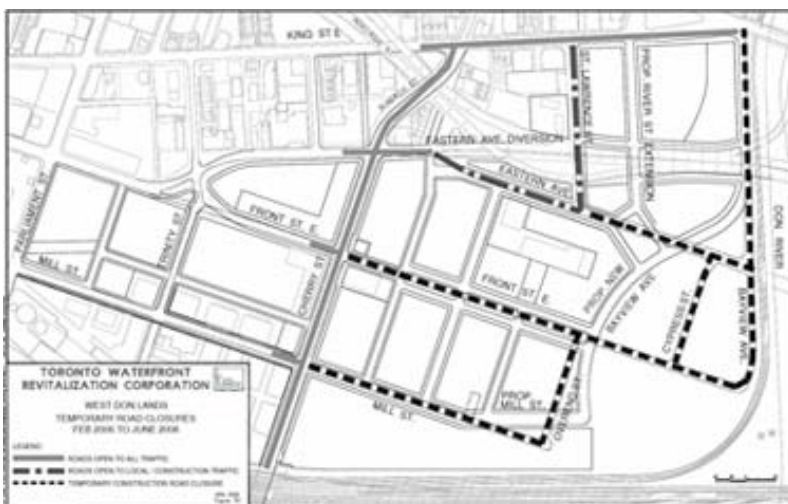


hoarding (wooden fencing) and new project signs around the area. ORC has developed a Site Specific Health and Safety Plan that promotes safety among employees, contractors and subcontractors involved with the deconstruction activities.

An Environmental Management Plan has also been developed in consultation with community, which will ensure that activities like building decommissioning and construction of the berm comply with TWRC's standards for sustainable development and protect the community. Detailed design of the berm, which will eventually become Don River Park, and related infrastructure continues. Construction of the berm is scheduled to start later in the summer.



Road Closures



To maintain public safety while work is being carried out in the West Don Lands, some city streets are closing. The following city streets will be closed from February 2006 to June 2008: Bayview Avenue from south of the River Street connection between the Queen and King Street overpass Front Street east of Cherry Street Eastern Avenue east of St. Lawrence Street Mill Street east of Cherry Street Overend Street Cypress Street Care has been taken to ensure that area residents and business owners continue to have access to their properties. To report any concerns or for further information, please call 416-214-9990 or email wdl@twaterfront.ca.

West Don Lands Transit EA

TTC and TWRC have started work on an Environmental Assessment for West Don Lands public transit. Construction is scheduled to start on the West Don Lands transit line in 2008 and service will be operational in 2009. Public consultation is integral to this work and will continue throughout the process. TWRC, in partnership with TTC is having an interactive public workshop on April 5th from 7-9 p.m. at the St. Lawrence Great Hall (157 King St. E) to provide input on the first phase of this Environmental Assessment known as the Terms of Reference. The purpose of the Terms of Reference is to describe and set out the scope of this project. Please watch for more details on this meeting. For further information, please contact 416-214-9990 or transit@twaterfront.ca.



Soil, Groundwater and Environmental Management

ORC, in cooperation with TWRC and the City of Toronto, is in the process of finalizing a Risk Assessment/Risk Management Plan for soils and groundwater in the West Don Lands. This work includes analyzing existing soil data, collecting new data and developing strategies to manage the risk of contaminants. Soil and groundwater sampling is complete. The plan requires City Council approval. After City Council approval, the plan will then be submitted to the Ministry of Environment for approval. ORC and TWRC have held two public information sessions on the Risk Assessment/Risk Management Plan and have provided updates at other community meetings. There will be a third public information session to communicate the contents of the Risk Assessment/Risk Management Plan in early spring.

Don River Park



TWRC selected Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates (MVVA) of New York and Cambridge to design Don River Park. A number of local firms are also part of the design team including Ken Greenberg and Associates and the Planning Partnership. Don River Park will be the



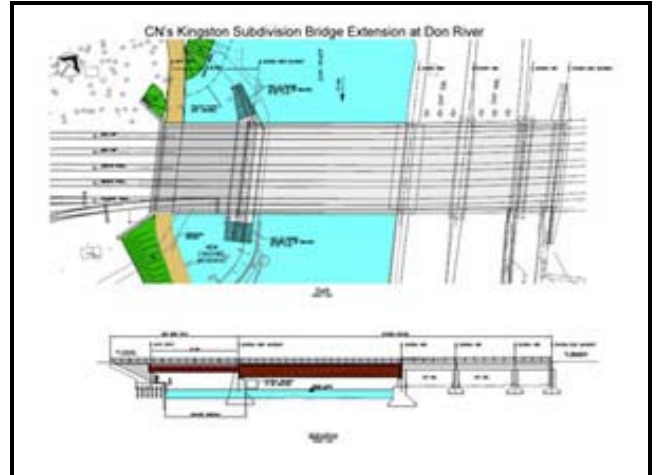
cornerstone and distinguishing feature of the West Don Lands. This 19-acre park will provide for a range of recreational, cultural and heritage, public art, environmental and trail connection opportunities for the new West Don Lands community. There will be three phases of work: concept design (complete by spring/summer 2006), detailed design (complete by fall 2006) and park construction (complete by 2007/08). Stakeholder and public consultations will begin later in April and will continue throughout the design process.

Since the Government of Canada is a financial contributor of this project, it will undergo an Environmental Assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). This will be done concurrently with the project design. Approval under CEAA is required before the park can be built.

CN Kingston Bridge Extension and Bala Pedestrian Underpass

TRCA is overseeing a project to extend the existing CN Kingston bridge to widen the Don River as part of the flood protection. TRCA is also undertaking a pedestrian underpass to the GO line in the Don Valley. The Bala Pedestrian Underpass will provide a trail link from the Don River Park to the existing Don River Trail and waterfront trails but is not part of the flood protection package for the lower Don.

Design of the extension and the Bala Pedestrian Underpass is complete. The design reflects close collaboration with CN Rail, GO Transit, Hydro One, ORC, the City and TWRC, as well as input from the community. TRCA, TWRC and CN Rail are currently reviewing construction bids for both structures. TRCA and CN Rail plan to announce the successful contractor within a few weeks and work will follow immediately thereafter. Please be advised that parts of the Don River Trail will be closed from Queen Street to the Martin Goodman Trail while this work is underway. The trail closure will be in effect from the end of February 2006 until spring 2007. For more information, please visit: www.trca.on.ca.



Questions? Comments?

We want to hear from you. Email wdl@twaterfront.ca or call 416-214-9990.

The Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto established TWRC in 2001 to oversee and lead the renewal of Toronto's central waterfront.

