



Meeting Minutes

Queens Quay Construction Liaison Committee

Meeting #9 Summary

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Waterfront Toronto – 20 Bay Street

Attendance:

Kelly Gorman (250/251,260,270 Queens Quay West)
Blair Keetch (PawsWay)
Diego Sinagoga (Toronto Transit Commission)
Kathi Bonner (Queens Quay Terminal)
Safdar Nasser (Radisson Hotel)
Greg Gibb (Waterclub Condos)
Aleksandar Petricic (401 Queens Quay)
Clay McFayden (Cycle Toronto)
Cindi Vanden Heuvel (Toronto Passenger Vessel Association)
Dion DeFebo – (Oxford Properties)
Lene Andersen (Accessibility)
Ulla Colgrass (YQNA)
Pam Mazza – (TICA/QCYC)
Jen Chan – Councillor Vaughan
Chris Hodgson – HFC
Henry Byres – BIA Office
Carol Jolly – Waterfront BIA
Vesna Saltagic - Riviera

Luigi Cifa (Eastern Construction)
Robert Pasut (Eastern Construction)
Curtis Keen (Eastern Construction)
Pina Mallozzi (Waterfront Toronto)
James Roche (Waterfront Toronto)
Samantha Gileno (Waterfront Toronto)

Opening Remarks & Welcome – Samantha Gileno

Today's Agenda

- 1.) Project Update
 - a. Approvals & Permits
 - b. Construction Tenders
 - c. Construction Activities
 - i. Hydro Update
 - ii. Bell Update
 - iii. Toronto Hydro Update
 - iv. TTC Demolition
- 2.) Upcoming Construction Activities
- 3.) Review Communication Tools for Construction Activities
 - a. Construction maps
 - b. Construction matrix
 - c. CLC meeting/three-week look ahead
 - d. Weekly notice

- 4.) CLC Member Feedback/Discussion
 - a. Move to one-way traffic
 - b. Other Construction

1. **Project Update:**

Approvals/Permits (Pina Mallozzi)

On September 11, we received our permit to commence the demolition and removal of the TTC corridor, and this work has now begun.

We are proceeding with the permit approval from the Ministry of the Environment for storm and sanitary sewers and waterline construction. This is required for our site services construction.

We have received approval from Transport Canada to proceed with works at the Peter Street Bridge.

We are currently in the final stages of our design review to the City and agencies for the full construction permit.

We have sign-off from Transportation Services for Stage 1 work and associated traffic management.

We are continuing to work with Queens Quay property landowners and their individual access agreements.

We have had meetings with the Queens Quay BIA to discuss enhancements the BIA may add to Queens Quay. We will report back to the CLC when more information is available.

Construction/Tenders (James Roche)

- 1) **Site Services** – Tender for storm & sanitary closes on the 30th of this month.
- 2) **Pre-Inspection Services** – tender has closed and is ready to be awarded
- 3) **Granite** – Contract has been awarded, and the quarrying has begun.
- 4) **H&S Landscape Tenders** – For finished products and road & asphalt still to come.

- The traffic plan was implemented on November 5th with eastbound lane closures from Lower Spadina to Bay Street
- TTC demolition work began on November 2nd.
- TTC currently working on the portal ramp installing lift plates, etc.
- Enbridge currently working in the Lower Simcoe area of Queens Quay.
- Toronto Hydro and PLP are working at The Westin installing new cable chambers, and also located at the north east corner of York & Queens Quay.

Question: Can you tell us where the granite for Queens Quay is coming from?

Answer: It is Canadian granite from northern Ontario and Quebec.

2. **Construction Activities Update (Luigi Cifa)**

- Our construction sequence 1B1 was implemented with City approval on Nov. 5th.
- Both EB traffic lanes are closed from Spadina to Bay
- These lane closures provide the construction teams with more room to maneuver and work.
- There were some minor hiccups with the closure – we monitored all of these issues and reacted as quickly as possible to resolve issues.
- Curtis Kean, Eastern Construction Scheduler will review the 3-week lookahead (distributed at the meeting)
 - o Coco Paving is going to continue with the demolition of the TTC corridor.
 - o The electrical subcontractor will begin to coordinate the set-up and installation of temporary signal poles at York, Lower Simcoe and Rees Street intersections.

- Some localized test pits will be drilled in preparation for site services work.

Question: Can you please describe the work regarding traffic signalization?

Answer: Stacey Electric will begin to place new traffic signal heads on guy wires which will be strung across the intersections along Queens Quay. This will allow us to easily move and re-position the signals throughout the project as we change traffic flows and patterns.

Question: How will driveway access to/from the 250/260/270 property occur?

Answer: We will provide access to these buildings throughout the various construction phases and sequences. When the driveways are ready to be constructed, we will provide advance notice to residents, and then build the driveways in halves, allowing for unobstructed entrance/exit.

Question: Are all utilities being upgraded?

Answer: In some cases, e.g., Toronto water, the utility remains fairly consistent. Some new lines and services are being installed as an upgrade to the existing services. In other cases, it is replacing “like for like”. With every utility company working on Queens Quay, they have assessed the need for upgrade and designed for future growth opportunities. Please do not forget that following the completion of construction, there is a five year moratorium, so most utility companies understand that now is the time to make investments and upgrade as necessary.

Enbridge Gas

- Work will start west of York St. and continue to 350 Queens Quay.
- Most of the work is in the roadway except for a section just east of Robertson Crescent.
- The work involves open trenching and then laying new six inch gas pipe at 2.1 meters in depth. The trench is approximately 2 feet wide.
- After the new gas main is installed Enbridge will transfer customers from old to new systems but maintain redundancy of gas services to customers.
- Enbridge’s subcontractor will schedule service shut offs if necessary and will coordinate that work with customers. It is anticipated that there will only be three or four customers that will fall into this category.

Bell Canada

- Bell has completed its civil work which includes new ducts between Rees St. and York St.
- New copper and fibre cabling has been installed to some buildings along Queens Quay.
- Bell is currently placing cables between various manholes predominately between York and Rees Street.
- There is approximately 4-6 weeks more of cable placements with some traffic diversions required around trucks.
- Currently there are also splicing and energizing of new cables occurring.
- Bell expects three months of work for these activities.
- Splicing occurs both in manholes and the communication rooms of buildings.
- Bell will minimize outages once the cutovers will begin. Each cutover is arranged with the individual property managers. The procedure is normally one crew at a manhole and the other in the communications room of the building and completed one building at a time.
- There are approximately 8-9 manholes located on the north side of Queens Quay.

3. Review Communication Tools for Construction Activities (Samantha Gileno):

There are a number of construction communication tools that stakeholders may use to help communicate to their various constituents. These include:

- a. Construction staging and traffic maps (on our website)

- b. Construction matrix (for review at CLC meeting – posted to our website with the notes)
- c. Three-week construction lookahead (for review at CLC meeting – posted to our website with the notes)
- d. Weekly Construction Notices (emailed to database and posted to website)
- e. Special Construction Notices (emailed to database and posted to website)

Luigi has updated the construction matrix document. (Refer to handout) This high-level document provides details up to the Spring of 2013 and will remain fairly consistent.

Question: When will the TTC streetcars be back in service on Queens Quay?

Answer: The service is set to resume for the Summer of 2013 and run through the summer months. There is significant track work that must be performed on the Spadina Loop and out to the Peter Street bridge which will necessitate another 2-3 months shutdown in the Fall of 2013.

Question: Do you have poster boards available for display in the Queens Quay buildings?

Answer: There are various forms of signs that Waterfront has created for the QQR project.

They include:

- Traffic signs (legislated)
- Routing Advisory
- Informational
 - o Pedestrian
 - o Cyclists
- Promotional
- Team Signage
- Open Business

We have communicated with all property managers and are delivering lobby signs to those who expressed an interest.

Note: The WaterClub would like to have these signs for our buildings & lobby.

Question: Can the completion dates for the various construction stages be added to the signs?

Answer: Yes – we will provide general completion dates that for the lobby signs. Some of the traffic signs also have completion dates on them.

Cyclists Information Signs:

- These “detour signs” are 4’x4’ in size, and will be posted at strategic points along the bike route.
- These signs throughout the project while the detour is in effect.
- Chevrons for the cyclists have also been painted.
- The aim is to sign places where vehicles and cyclists can make a decision about whether or not to travel along Queens Quay.

Question: Why not add the area east of Yonge St. to the Cyclist Detour Sign Map?

Answer: Our main goal is to communicate the detour area so we focused on the area between Spadina Ave and Yonge St. From a communication perspective, it was difficult to create a “readable scale” map for the entire 3km+ length of Queens Quay. On our transportation routing map for how to access Queens Quay by bike, we have added an information box stating that work is also underway on new bike lanes east of Yonge St.

Question: Is this detour route signage pertaining only to Stage 1 of construction?

Answer: No, it will apply for Stage 2 as well with some small alterations to the route.

Question: Will the detour route be maintained year-round?

Answer: It is our understanding that the City intends to maintain it. Waterfront Toronto will be meeting with the Waterfront Secretariat (Chris Ronson) and City Cycling to review the winter maintenance program for this path.

Stakeholder Note: Cyclists are not obeying traffic and cycling signs and can be fined \$85 for infractions.

Construction Questions:

Question: The congestion on the eastbound lanes from Bathurst to Spadina was terrible following the closure. We noticed cars making illegal U-turns. Can more signs be posted at Bathurst warning of closures?

Answer: We are aware of this concern and are making a number of changes to ease the congestion. We will be installing more signage to give drivers options. We should note that the paid-duty police officers that were posted at Lower Spadina took their own initiative to shut down eastbound traffic at Bathurst. Once we were notified, we spoke to the officers, and corrected their actions. We also added paid-duty police officers at Bathurst on Monday & Tuesday when we noticed that signage was not working effectively.

We are also in the process of changing the traffic signal timing. This is on a slightly longer implementation timeline since it needs to be coordinated with the City and the traffic lights for Spadina and Lakeshore.

Question: The eastbound TTC signs/stops are still in their original place. There is no signage informing patrons where the new stops have been relocated. Can this be addressed?

Answer: The TTC will investigate and work to improve signage on Queens Quay.

Question: The asphalt that was added for the driveways at 401 Queens Quay is too steep for small cars. They are “bottoming out” as they enter the property. Can we fix this please? As well, there are some issues with the signs in this area. The “No Localized Traffic” sign should be removed and the orange traffic sign indicating access to the 401 Queens Quay is blocked by the fast fence and is difficult to see by motorists.

Answer: ECCL will investigate and correct these issues ASAP.

Question: A left turn out of the Standard parking garage at Lower Simcoe forces vehicles into westbound traffic only. I suggest that a “no left turn” sign be posted across the street from the exit on Lower Simcoe.

Answer: Yes – we will have a sign created and placed.

Question: There is a lack of signs at Union Station informing patrons of access to Queen Quay. What is posted is not clear regarding the 509 and 510 bus routes. Can this be corrected? We should consider visitors to Toronto who are not familiar with the construction and situation here.

Answer: Diego -The TTC will investigate, but not sure that we can provide this information. Currently, there are too many signs and this is adding to the confusion. The TTC operates over 140 routes, and it is not always easy to provide the detail or clarification you are asking for. We should take this topic off-line and discuss further with the TTC.

Question: I have concerns regarding the route information and timing of buses. We have over 100 employees that take the TTC to work. They are arriving late, and now have been leaving home 45 minutes earlier in order to make the start times of their shifts.

Answer: Diego- I will take this information back to TTC headquarters to discuss request for more buses, frequency, and regarding an additional access point for buses leaving Union Station.

- FYI - The TTC uses a CIS system on buses which is similar to a GPS system. This CIS monitors the status of the bus and provides adjustments to the driver to accommodate for these “live” conditions.
- The TTC team will review the current situation regarding the resources of bus and drivers on QQ and find a suitable solution to this service.

Question: The tour bus industry requires a more specific communication to help drivers understand where to park to drop-off and pick-up passengers.

Answer: We are working to create a specific coach layby once the TTC corridor demo is complete. Until then, coach buses may continue to park as they have been – along the available curb lane on Queens Quay and on north/south streets. WT will also look into creating a map for our website to address this issue.

Question: Will the Cyclist Detour Signs and information be made available on the Waterfront website?

Answer: Yes, it will be available, with dates posted as well.

Question: Will the future CLC meetings be held on a monthly basis? Can we have a lookahead schedule?

Answer: Yes, they will be and Andrea will forward the next series of meetings to all in a notification notice.