The rapidway projects on Bathurst & Centre Streets and Highway 7 West have seen a lot of progress over the past year. We achieved milestones such as the first vivastation platforms and canopy installations, gas main and water main upgrades and the girder installation on the Highway 7 bridge over Highway 400.

In the centre of these two projects is the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre [VMC] transit hub at Highway 7 West and Millway Avenue. The hub includes dedicated bus lanes, VMC Station for Viva and Brampton Züm, the subway station at the top of the TTC Line 1 Subway Extension and the bus terminal (to open this year).

The new sections of rapidway will consist of 10 new vivastations, connecting customers from Woodbridge, Concord and Thornhill to VMC. It will also connect people to the rest of York Region via the Richmond Hill Centre Terminal at Yonge Street and Highway 7, and the future Yonge Subway Extension.

These projects will bring lasting benefits to the City of Vaughan and York Region.
here’s a look-ahead for what’s happening this summer on the vivaNext rapidway project for Bathurst and Centre Streets and on Highway 7 West:

**Bathurst & Centre**
- A vivastation canopy was installed at the Atkinson Avenue vivastation on Bathurst. The first two canopies are already installed at the Bathurst/Hwy 7 vivastation on the Bathurst connector road.
- Retaining walls are being built in various locations and culvert extensions are well underway.
- Utility relocations and upgrades—including new hydro poles—are continuing and are expected to be completed this year.
- Further road widening work will continue, including storm sewer installations.
- Crews will be paving a base layer of asphalt on Bathurst and Centre.
- Sidewalk and boulevard work and concrete planter box construction will begin this year.
- Construction will continue on a shared-use path on Highway 7 between the Bathurst and Yonge connector roads.

**Highway 7 West**
- Expansion of the Highway 7 bridge over Highway 400 is progressing well. This spring, one of the most visible works you’ll see is construction of the bridge deck atop the new piers and girders.
- Preliminary construction for the first vivastations west of the VMC area is also starting up, with the platform at Commerce Street under construction, with the canopies to come.
- Retaining walls are being built in various locations and culvert extensions are well underway.
- Utility relocations and upgrades—including new hydro poles—are continuing and are expected to be completed this year.
- Road widening work will continue, including storm sewer installations.

**intersections are changing**
As rapidway construction progresses, the way the intersections work will be changing—especially if you’re turning left or want to make a U-turn. Here’s a primer:
- **Further road widening work will continue, including storm sewer installations.**
- **Crews will be paving a base layer of asphalt on Bathurst and Centre.**
- **Sidewalk and boulevard work and concrete planter box construction will begin this year.**
- **Construction will continue on a shared-use path on Highway 7 between the Bathurst and Yonge connector roads.**

**what the street will look like**
Shown is a cross section of what Highway 7 West will look like with 3 lanes of through traffic (Bathurst & Centre Streets will have 2 lanes).

**watch your step:**
safety during rapidway construction is crucial
- **Pay attention to posted signs in and around construction zones.** Because construction zones change as work progresses, it’s especially important for everyone—pedestrians, cyclists and drivers—to pay attention to posted signs. Watch for signs and traffic barrels that indicate lane closures and shifts, as well as relocated sidewalks and bus stops.
- **Cross at the designated crosswalk.** It can be tempting to cross in the middle of the road, but this can make left turns or U-turns only during the left-turn signal.
- **To reach driveways mid-block.** To access destinations located on the opposite side of the road between intersections, drivers can make a U-turn at the next signalized intersection. Making a U-turn or left at an intersection is safer than cutting across multiple lanes of traffic, and ensures that drivers trying to turn left get their turn, and don’t have to rush through a yellow.
- **Pedestrian crossings.** As on completed rapidways on Highway 7 in Markham and Vaughan and Davis Drive in Newmarket, intersections will be wider with a waiting area in the middle of the street for those who need to cross in two stages.

**Obey the posted speed limit in construction zones.** Active construction zones often have reduced speed limits. To protect construction workers and pedestrians, it’s crucial for drivers to slow down, follow the posted speed limit and pay close attention to road markings.
- **The value of patience.** While construction can often be messy and look chaotic, we’re working hard to transform the corridor to a complete street with sidewalks, bike lanes and rapid transit. Your patience is appreciated.