improving connections in York Region and across the GTHA

The history of Yonge Street dates back more than 200 years, when Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe commissioned a military road to be built in what is now referred to as York Region and the City of Toronto.

The Yonge Street bus rapid transit project in Richmond Hill is all about connecting people and places. We’re building and improving on what’s already a key transit corridor in York Region, creating connections to completed rapidways in Newmarket, Markham and Vaughan, and the recently opened Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension.

We’re building a transit network that connects east, west, north and south. These investments will connect passengers to YRT/Viva bus routes, inter-regional train and bus routes, bike paths across the Region, and the future Yonge Subway Extension.

More than 200 years later, it’s clear that all transit services need to work together in a well-planned network to connect to various methods of transit and other key destinations and urban centres. When transit works as an integrated system, customers, residents, and businesses are better served.
This year, traffic will be shifted to one side of Yonge – in certain areas – in advance of road widening work. This will include:

- Traffic lanes being shifted to make room for crews to work
- During peak hours, when possible, you can expect to see two open lanes in each direction
- Removing existing pavement, curbs and sidewalks within the construction limits
- Installing new storm sewers, curbs, and boulevard
- Painting new traffic lines on the road

This investment in modernizing Yonge Street, adding a rapid transit service and revitalizing infrastructure will go a long way to making sure Yonge continues to be a destination for generations to come.

So how do we get these projects done when people still need to use the roads, water and hydro?

VivaNext rapid transit projects are carefully planned to manage construction and maintain services as much as possible. There is a balance on every construction project between the need to get work done on schedule, the need to keep traffic moving, and the construction disruption to adjacent homes and businesses.

On occasion, night work is scheduled on busy roads to avoid traffic congestion during the higher-traffic daytime hours. When driving, we remind you to use caution, and keep an eye out for changing lane configurations, pedestrians and workers. As construction continues on our streets, please drive slowly through work areas with everyone’s safety in mind.

We understand that sitting in traffic can make commutes longer. On the other hand, when work is done at night we know the noise and lights can make it difficult for those living nearby. The project works hard to strike a balance between all these considerations. Work is limited during peak traffic times, and crews work diligently to complete overnight work quickly so that it’s over as soon as possible.

Our crews are mindful that they are working in your backyard and work diligently to minimize the amount of noise and light they create as they work overnight, while maintaining a safe work environment for crews.
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 be very dangerous. Instead, cross at a designated crosswalk. Look both ways and be aware of your surroundings.

Obey the posted speed limit in construction zones.

Active construction zones often have reduced speed limits for good reason. To protect construction workers and pedestrians, it’s crucial for drivers to slow down and follow the posted speed limit, and pay close attention to construction signs and 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. We sincerely mean it when we say your patience is appreciated.

Safety is a shared responsibility.

Safety of the site and the construction workers is very important on any job to make sure at the end of every day, everyone gets home to their families.
we’re committed to keeping you informed

- **Vivanext.com** – Your online stop for all things related to rapid transit in York Region
- **Email notices** – Sign up to get the latest construction information
- **Social Media:**
  - **Facebook:** Be sure to like us to gain access to interesting articles, cool retro photos and new blogs
  - **Twitter:** Follow us to get the latest construction updates about work taking place in your area
  - **Instagram:** Follow us to stay informed about construction in your neighbourhood

- **Don’t miss a minute of the action** - blogs and videos take you on a construction journey behind the scenes
- **Stay informed about road closures and night and weekend work by visiting** vivanext.com

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