It’s an exciting time as the transformation continues to unfold on Yonge Street in Newmarket. As we approach 60% complete, we thank everyone for bearing with us as we work to complete the rapidway project as quickly as possible.

When the project opens in Newmarket, there will be 2.4 km of rapidway between Savage Road/Sawmill Valley Drive to Davis Drive, and three vivastations at Mulock, Eagle and Davis. This section of Yonge will feel like an urban space, with landscaping, wider boulevards and green spaces. There will also be dedicated left-turn lanes, with U-turns permitted at each intersection, which will help improve overall traffic flow.

All these changes will support urban revitalization by encouraging the development of pedestrian-friendly places for people to live, work, shop, play, and learn.

keep in touch

Subscribe to construction updates:
1. Visit vivanext.com/subscribe
2. Select the ‘Yonge Street’ boxes and any others of interest
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5. You will receive a confirmation email
Standing at Yonge and Davis, you can look south on Yonge and see that the installation of boulevards and planters are near completion on the west side of the street. You’ll also notice planters and sidewalks with interlocking paver stones on the west side of Yonge, from Davis to Sawmill Valley/Savage.

On the east side, you may notice that road widening activities are complete including the installation of storm sewers, subdrain pipes, and new curbs. You may also notice the newly widened road being paved and new sidewalks, bike lanes, planter boxes getting installed. Although this may look messy now, you will soon see the transformation begin to unfold as it did on the west side of Yonge.

Work is also underway in what will eventually become the dedicated rapidway. Earlier this year, a milestone moment was reached – crews began installing the caissons [a cylindrical concrete base] for the foundation of the very first vivastation platform on Yonge, at Mulock. Soon you can expect to see work underway for the vivastations at Eagle and Davis.

Although the rapidway in Newmarket is scheduled to open by the end of 2019, you will see finishing touches along Yonge into 2020, including the planting of trees, shrubs and grass.

Map not to scale
intersections are changing

As the dedicated bus lanes and stations are being built in the centre lanes, there will be important changes to how pedestrians and motorists use intersections and lanes.

dedicated left-turn signal

With the rapidway being built in the centre of the road, motorists will have to cross a wider intersection. To help them do this, we are installing dedicated left-turn traffic signals. Drivers can only turn left when the left-turn arrow is illuminated.

new for motorist:

- Intersections will now have a dedicated left-turn traffic signal.
- Drivers can only turn left when the left-turn arrow is illuminated.
- Left turns are not permitted when through traffic proceeds.
- To access mid-block entrances on the other side of the road, motorists will make U-turns at signalized intersections when the left-turn arrow is illuminated.
  Watch for “U-turn permitted” signs.

new for pedestrians:

- Intersections will be wider with more lanes and new signals. At the intersections that will have vivastations, pedestrians may cross the road in two stages if unable to get to the other side during the first signal.
- There will be a pedestrian waiting area in the middle of the crosswalk where pedestrians can stop, push the “walk” button, and wait for the next walk signal to safely cross the second half of the street.
- A countdown signal will indicate how many seconds pedestrians have left to safely cross the street.

vehicle access to plazas and entrances

To access mid-block destinations on the opposite side of the road, vehicles can make U-turns at intersections. Motorists will have to drive past their destination to an intersection with a “U-turn permitted” sign. Once the dedicated left-turn arrow is illuminated, they can safely make a U-turn and head towards their destination. Global studies of traffic control have shown this to be a safer way to turn left on a multi-lane road.

winter works

Crews will work well into the winter and perform a number of activities, including:

- Caisson installation for the vivastations
- Structural steel fabrication and erection for each of the vivastations
- Continue installing streetscaping on the east side of Yonge, including paver stones and planters
Coping with construction is a lot easier when you know what to expect, where to expect it, and for how long. Your community liaison meets with schools, libraries, resident groups, and more. In case you miss her, the best way to stay informed about Yonge Street construction activities is to sign up for email notifications at vivanext.com/subscribe and follow us on our social media platforms.

This time of year, the spirit of giving is all around.

With rapidway construction continuing we thank you for continuing to support your neighbourhood shops, restaurants and services. We invite you to come see what’s in store this holiday season along Yonge Street in Newmarket.

After all, we’re your neighbours too – Shop Yonge!

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