We’re entering the final stages of rapidway construction, and the reality of a new and improved Yonge Street in Newmarket is feeling much closer. Excitement is building as the rapidway will open by the end of this year.

The Yonge Street rapidway construction project is about much more than building dedicated lanes for bus rapid transit, it’s about connecting people and places, and providing complete streets for the entire community to benefit from for generations to come.

Complete streets provide economic, environmental and social benefits that lead to an overall improvement in quality of life. Transit riders, residents and businesses are best served when transit works as an integrated system. It’s crucial for transit services to work together as a well-planned network, connecting different modes of transportation and destinations.

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We can do it together!

Safety is a shared responsibility.

Safety of the construction workers and the public is very important on any job. Let’s make sure at the end of every day, everyone gets home to their families.

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 be messy and look chaotic, we’re working hard to transform the corridor to a complete street with sidewalks, bike lanes and rapidway. We sincerely mean it when we say your patience is appreciated.

Stop, shop + dine.

Coping with construction is a lot easier when you know what to expect, where to expect it and how long. Your community liaison meets with schools, libraries, businesses, 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.

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Keep in touch

We value your input. Follow us on social media and visit our project website at vivanext.com for the latest updates.

Keep our community safe

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Work will also continue on each of the three vivastations, including pouring eight truckloads of concrete, the careful delivery and installation of the canopies, and assembling the blue-tinted glass panels.

As you’re driving along Yonge Street this construction season, you’ll see each of the following steps in building a vivastation:

1. Installing caissons, and pouring concrete for the foundation of the vivastation.
2. Forming and pouring the barrier wall, a concrete barrier giving additional safety between the road and sky walks.
3. Installing modules for the offshore of the station.
4. Installing modules for the curved roof, rain drain, heating, and fire-rated wall assembly.
5. Fixing the platform.
6. Fixing modules, including garbage bins, benches, handrails, and more.
7. Fixing electrical and intelligent transportation systems, including lights, heaters, ticket vending machines, and more.
8. Installing casework and general ticketing fare systems, including turnstiles, fare gates, fare management call boxes, (ESC), and more.
9. Fixture installation, including garbage bins, benches, handrails, and more.

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Complete streets are planned and designed for all ages, abilities and modes of travel, with direct connections to businesses, places to live, trails, gathering places and natural vegetation. Streets become places to go instead of just surfaces to drive on, and this helps to build a stronger sense of community.

Along Yonge Street in Newmarket, we will be planting nearly 400 trees later this year and into 2020. Trees and shrubs help to filter the air and water, and provide shade and habitat for animals and birds. But when you look at a tree, shrub or plant, it doesn’t bring to mind the economy. However, according to York Region’s 2017 State of the Forests Report, the Region’s tree cover reduces energy costs by approximately $8 million per year.

Forests contribute to better air and water quality, provide habitat for animals and birds, and help reduce climate change impacts. They also improve human health and well-being. For example, the presence of green spaces like parks and green neighbourhoods will help shape the future of this community and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

New for motorists

• Intersections will now have a dedicated left-turn traffic signal and left-turn lane.
• Drivers can only turn left when the left-turn arrow is illuminated.
• Left turns are now 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 with audible tone will indicate how many seconds pedestrians have left to safely cross the street.

VivaNext projects include tree-lined streets

10 more trees on a block

10 trees

health benefits equal to a

$1,000

raise or being

7 years younger

200 kg CO₂

reduce energy costs

$8 million per year

can replace up to

70 cars on the road

One bus

reduced carbon footprint

With construction of bus lanes and vivastations underway, there are important changes to how pedestrians and motorists use Yonge Street.

VivaNext.com
Work will continue on Yonge Street, including:

- Painting bike and pedestrian lane markings.
- Paving and paver stones.
- Lots of work is underway on Yonge Street, including:
  - As the rapidway project enters the final stages of its construction season, you’ll see each of the following steps in building a vivastation:
    1. Installing caissons, and pouring concrete for the foundation of the station
    2. Forming and pouring the barrier wall, and installing barrier lighting, between the curb and the tracks
    3. Installing station for the platform
    4. Stairs installation (by the current roof, and functional stairway)
    5. Fixing the station platform
    6. Fixing station, including garbage bins, benches, security, and PA systems, emergency call boxes (ECB), etc.
    7. Forming and pouring the barrier wall, and installing barrier lighting, between the curb and the tracks

When there’s a bit of construction activity, it can be at its most disruptive—so thank you in advance for your patience and understanding, as painting and boulevard work continues. We will do our best to limit impacts as much as possible. We’re working diligently toward the scheduled opening of the rapidway by the end of 2019, however, some finishing work (planting of trees, etc.) will continue into 2020.

As the rapidway project enters the final stages of construction between Savage Road/Summit Valley Drive and Davis Drive, it’s important we get across this message: It’s going to be busy!

Lots of work is underway on Yonge Street, including:

- Boulevard works will continue on the east side of Yonge – pouring concrete for new sidewalks, planters and power stairs.
- Paving traffic and the rapidway lanes.
- Painting bike and pedestrian lane markings.

We’re busy transforming one of York Region’s major corridors by building a bus rapidway and creating a complete street on Yonge Street in Newmarket, which will help shape the future of this community and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Complete streets are planned and designed for all ages, abilities and modes of travel, with direct connections to businesses, places to live, trails, gathering places and natural vegetation. Streets become places to go instead of just surfaces to drive on, and this helps to build a stronger sense of community.

Along Yonge Street in Newmarket, we will be planting nearly 420 trees later this year and into 2020. Trees and shrubs help to filter the air and water, and provide shade and habitat for animals and birds. But when you look at a tree, shrub or plant, it doesn’t bring to mind the economy.

According to York Region’s 2017 State of the Forests Report, the Region’s tree cover reduces energy costs by approximately $8 million per year.

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VivaNext projects include tree-lined streets

- 10 trees on a block
- health benefits equal to a $1,000 raise or being 7 years younger
- reduce energy costs $8 million per year
- can replace up to 70 cars on the road
- reduced carbon footprint

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As you’re driving along Yonge Street this construction season, you’ll see each of the following steps in building a vivastation:

- Installing caissons, and pouring concrete for the foundation of the station
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- Installing station for the platform
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- Fixing the station platform
- Fixing station, including garbage bins, benches, security, and PA systems, emergency call boxes (ECB), etc.
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As the rapidway project enters the final stages of construction between Savage Road/Sawmill Valley Drive and Davis Drive, it’s important we get across this message: It’s going to be busy!

Lots of work is underway on Yonge Street, including:

• Painting bike and pedestrian lane markings.
• Pouring concrete for new sidewalks, planters and paver stones.

As you’re driving along Yonge Street this construction season, you’ll see each of the following steps in building a vivastation:

1. Installing caissons, and pouring concrete for the foundation of the station.
2. Forming and pouring the barrier wall, and constructing the pedestrian safety features between the station and traffic.
3. Pouring concrete for the foundation of the station.
4. Installation of the curved roof, glass, lighting, security and PA systems, emergency call boxes [ECB], benches, handrails, and more.
5. Fixing the platform.
6. Fixing the canopies, and assembling the blue-tinted glass panels.
7. Electrical and intelligent transportation systems, including garbage bins, signage, security and PA systems, emergency call boxes [ECB], benches, handrails, and more.

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