
Emma to Earl Street Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge

Introduction

Staff will introduce to the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) the Emma to Earl Street Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge project. This project is currently in the planning stage with future engagement opportunities with the AAC to come.

Background

- In 2015, the Speedvale Avenue corridor was assessed, and various road improvements were considered.
- This assessment determined that the portion of Speedvale Avenue East from Manhattan Court to Woolwich Street is too narrow to build on-street bike lanes.
 - Incorporating on-street bike lanes in the section would put cyclists close to high-speed vehicles.
 - Therefore, staff were directed to look at alternative options to ensure cyclists and pedestrians can safely cross the Speed River near Speedvale Avenue East.
- As a result, staff were asked to commence a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) in 2016, for the Emma to Earl Street potential bridge crossing.

Project Status

Preliminary environmental and technical reports have been completed for the area near the proposed bridge crossing. A design consultant has been hired to lead the detailed design and construction stages of the pedestrian/cycling bridge.

In addition to all provincial structural and accessibility design codes and regulations, the design team will be incorporating design elements as required in the following City documents:

- Linear Infrastructure Standards (LIS)
- Facility Accessibility Design Manual (FADM)
- Tree Technical Manual
- Master Plans for cycling, trails and transportation
- Emma to Earl Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Next Steps

- Three design concepts will be developed and made available for public review and comment through the City's Have Your Say web portal (end of Q1).
- In addition to the public review and comment, a survey will be sent to the AAC that focuses on the members' comments and accessibility-related advice that they want to highlight. AAC members are encouraged to participate in both the public engagement opportunity and the AAC-specific opportunity.
- The AAC and general public's input will be studied, then a preferred design will be selected, and the detailed design process will begin.

- Once a detailed design is developed (end of Q2), the project team, will present an overview of the accessibility-related comments, and highlight the results of the AAC's comments in the detailed design.
- Upon detailed design completion, information will be provided to the public about the construction phases and timing, and infrastructure impacts.
- Construction is expected to be completed by the end of Q4 2024.

Project Contact

Jackie Kay, MBA, P.Eng., PMP, Project Engineer

Design and Construction, Engineering and Transportation Services

T 519-822-1260 extension 2251

E jackie.kay@guelph.ca