



# Davenport News

SPRING 2007

City Councillor

## ADAM GIAMBRONE

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**Community Office Hours:**

Mondays: 12PM - 7PM  
Thursdays: 10AM - 7PM  
Saturdays: 10AM - 1PM

**City Hall Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9AM - 5PM

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Adam Giambrone's  
eNewsletter



www.adamgiambrone.ca



### A Message from your City Councillor Adam Giambrone

This is my first newsletter since the November municipal election, and I want to begin by thanking the community for your support. It is a real honour to return as your City Councillor for the next term. It is always a pleasure to speak with the residents of Ward 18 at community meetings, events and in the neighbourhood, but an election gives me that extra opportunity and time to spend on your doorstep listening to your thoughts, concerns and ideas. Your input is invaluable to me as I try to balance your needs, the goals of the community and the long-term goals of the City as a whole.

When Mayor Miller and members of Council appointed me to the Toronto Transit Commission and in turn as the TTC elected me the Chair, I was honoured and excited to accept the challenge. Since then, I have been struck by how engaged Ward 18 residents have become on citywide public transit issues and how we all recognize the importance of managing our transit system responsibly. While the Mayor continues to work towards securing a National Transit Strategy, I am working towards improving the quality of service and the implementation of a plan to build a network of fast, reliable transit that will attract people out of their cars and onto environmentally - friendly public transport. You can read more about Transit City on page 8.



In Ward 18, I am excited about a number of capital projects that are in progress including a new park along the railpath corridor, a new and efficient water meter program that will be piloted in ward 18 beginning this summer, the elimination of the Dufferin Street Jog, and other initiatives like the Bloor Improvement Group that was recently organized to help revitalize Bloor Street. You can read about some of these projects in this newsletter and look for more information about initiatives in Ward 18 on my webpage.



Finally, as we enter a new season, I'd like to draw to your attention the calendar of events for information about upcoming meetings, events and holidays. For additional and updated information, please visit my website. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call my office, e-mail me at councillor\_giambrone@toronto.ca, or visit www.adamgiambrone.ca.

*Councillor Giambrone and Mayor David Miller at Inauguration Ceremony of the 2006-2010 Toronto City Council (above) Councillor Giambrone speaking at Community Meeting at the Gladstone Hotel (left) courtesy of Will Pate www.willpate.org*

Calendar of Events on back page

# Calendar of Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / INFORMATION	TIME
April 9	Easter Monday	Holiday	All Day
April 20	20-Minute Makeover	Ward 18	2:00PM
April 21	Community Cleanup Day	Ward 18	All Day
April 22	Earth Day		All Day
April 23 & 24	City Council	Council Chambers	9:30AM
April 27	City Council (Operating Budget)	Council Chambers	9:30AM
May 1	Community Council	Toronto City Hall	9:30AM
May 13	Mothers' Day		All Day
May 21	Victoria Day	Holiday	All Day
May 23 & 24	City Council	Council Chambers	9:30AM
June 10	Portugal Day Parade	Dundas Street	
June 16	Ward 18 Environment Day	Dufferin Mall	10AM
June 16	Tree Festival	Dovercourt Park	
June 16	Councillor Giambrone's Summerfest	Dufferin Grove Park	11:30AM
June 17	Fathers' Day		
June 20 & 21	City Council	Council Chambers	9:30AM
June 21	Summer Solstice		
June 24	Franco-Ontarian Day		
June 26	Community Council	Toronto City Hall	9:30AM

## Concepts of the new West Toronto Railpath Trail

See page 3 for details



*View south towards Dundas West bridge. The trail south of Bloor West winds through a mix of open and shady areas among John Dickson's artwork, "Frontier" (not shown). The naturalized planting of primarily white and silver foliage provide a unique identity to the trail between Bloor and Dundas West. Design: Scott Torrance Landscape Architect Inc. and Brown and Storey Architects*

# Council Update

## City Moving to Automated Water Meter Reading

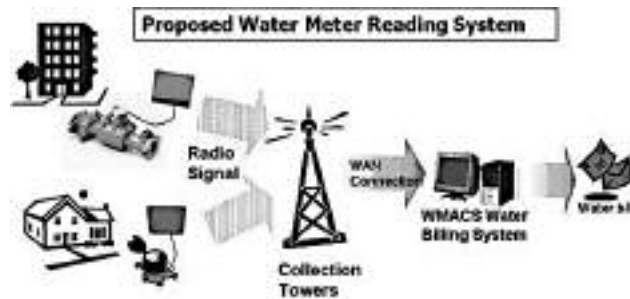
The City of Toronto will begin to implement a new Automated Meter Reading System later this year, starting in Wards 18 and 28. The new automated readers will begin to be installed this summer.

Conversion to the new city-wide system will involve installing, replacing and upgrading the meters of about 465,000 customers to an automated, radio-based system. All residents, businesses and industries in the City will be affected.

The new system will:

- Install new water meters at all residences and businesses.
- Bill customers for actual water used and eliminate flat rate billing.
- Use an automated system to read meters, and eliminate the need for City staff to read meters on site.
- Promote water conservation.

There is no cost to customers for the new meters. The majority of customers who convert from flat rate to metered billing will see their water bill reduced. The average family of four is expected to save as much as 30%. For tips on reducing your water use, visit [www.toronto.ca/water](http://www.toronto.ca/water).



## 20-Minute Toronto Makeover

Mark your calendar! The 20-Minute Toronto Makeover is back on April 20, 2007. Mayor David Miller and Councillor Adam Giambone ask residents in Ward 18 and all Torontonians to come outside at 2:00 p.m. and do a 20-minute clean-up blitz around your office, school or neighbourhood.

## Community Clean-up Day

Don't forget - Mayor David Miller's Community Clean-up Day takes place on Saturday, April 21, 2007. This is an opportunity to get together with friends, co-workers and neighbours to clean up an alley, park or area in your community.

To register an event in your neighbourhood call 416-392-7899.

## West Toronto Railpath Trail

The City of Toronto has approved the construction of a railpath trail which is approximately 2.1 kilometres long running from the North at Cariboo to just South of Dundas Street (see map). Construction is scheduled to start in the summer of 2007 and be completed in 2008.

The design consists of a lit, asphalt trail which winds through the site with concrete paved plazas at street intersections. Planting will consist of native tree species. Where possible, existing trees along the site will be protected and incorporated into the design. Native grasses and wildflower seeds from the site were collected in the fall of 2006 and will be replanted in 2008. Planting adjacent to the path and under the trees will consist of low grasses and wildflowers. This will maintain the 'wild' character of the existing site while providing habitat for birds, insects and small mammals. The low heights of new plants will provide open sight lines through the site for a safe and comfortable experience for all trail users.

Access to the trail will be from the following: Cariboo Avenue, Osler Street, Dupont Street (north side via a new stair connection to the sidewalk), Ruskin Avenue, Wallace Avenue, Ernest Avenue, Randolph Avenue, Bloor Street West (north and south

sides via new stair connections to the sidewalk), and Dundas Street West (via a ramped access to Sterling Road sidewalk).

For more information about the West Toronto Railpath Trail, please contact my office or visit [www.railpath.ca](http://www.railpath.ca).



# Capital Budget 2007

Toronto City Council approved their Five Year Capital Plan of \$6.7 billion with two-thirds of the budget focused on improving city transit and transportation infrastructure.

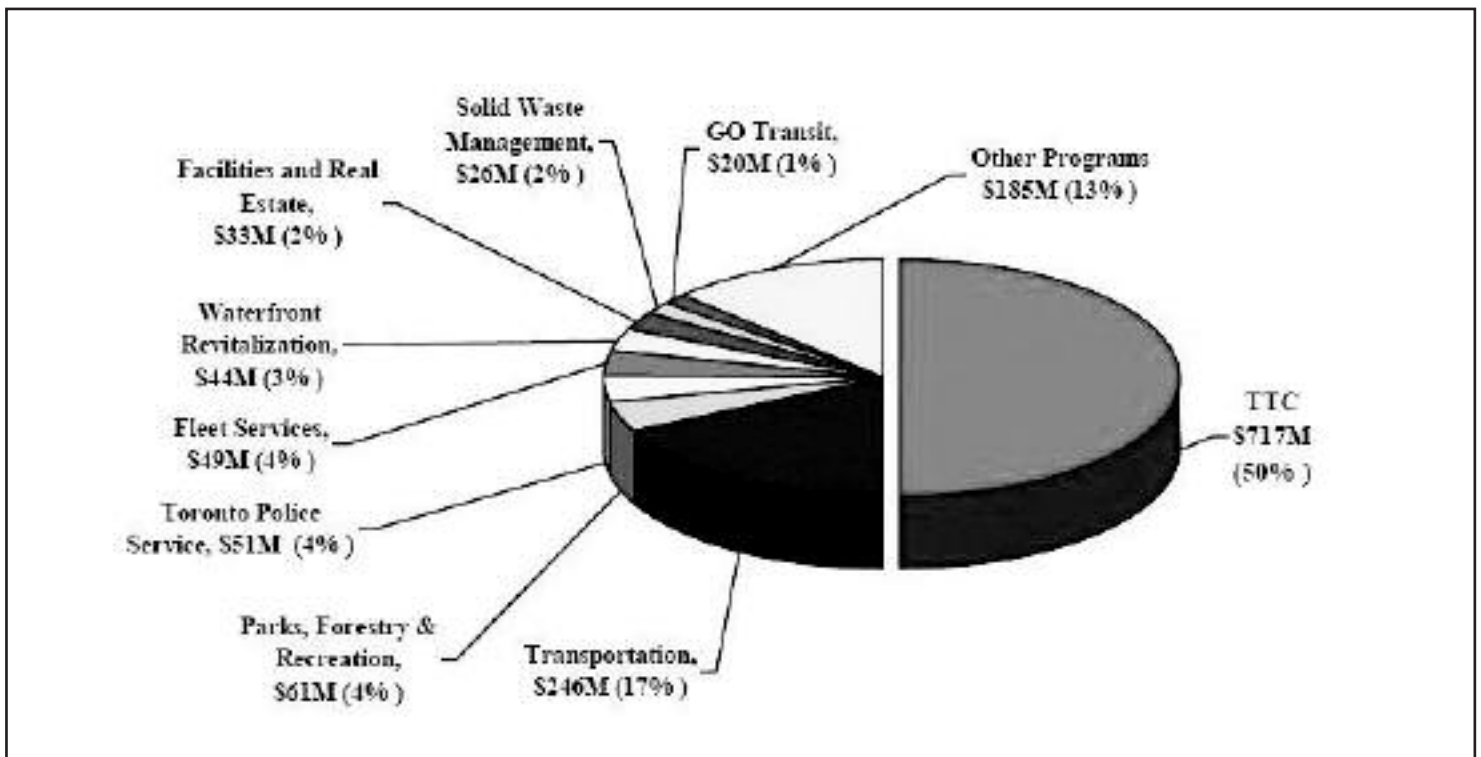
The City's Five-Year Capital Plan addresses the state of good repair capital requirements within debt affordability guidelines and limits the growth in infrastructure repair backlog. State of good repair spending will average \$1 billion each year from 2007 to 2011.

This Capital Plan includes much-needed investment in transit and infrastructure. It will help make Toronto a better city. The approved 2007 Capital Budget and 2008 - 2011 Capital Plan focuses on the City's health and safety, legislated, and state of good repair capital spending needs. Of the \$1.432 billion 2007 Capital budget, about 75% or \$1.074 billion is targeted to these three categories of projects.

While the 2007 Capital Budget's major focus is on infrastructure maintenance, there is limited investment to fulfill the priority service demands of a growing Toronto population. Capital Budget improvements for a greener tomorrow include, new light rail vehicles and buses, energy-use reductions project for City buildings, and investing in trails and parkland.

## Where the Money Goes

### 2007 Council Approved Capital Budget - Tax Supported Programs (\$1.432 Billion Cash Flow)



The five-year Capital Plan invests in projects that contribute to making Toronto a safer, cleaner, greener and beautiful city. The 2007 Capital Budget will invest in Ward 18 by allotting \$5 million (across the City) for improving public spaces in BIA's; \$3 million (across the City) to introduce traffic calming measures and bicycle lanes on various streets; \$8 million for the expansion of the Bloor/Gladstone library; \$12.941 million to construct an underpass to eliminate the Dufferin Street Jog creating a regular intersection to facilitate existing and future area traffic operations; \$6.264 million to purchase land and start design in 2007 to provide 14 Division with a new police station by 2010; and \$5.5 million to identify/purchase land in 2007 to provide 11 Division with a new police station by 2011.

For more information and details on the Capital Budget visit our website at [www.adamgiambrone.ca](http://www.adamgiambrone.ca). City Council will consider and approve the 2007 Operation Budget at the April 27th meeting of Toronto City Council.

## Investir no TTC é Bom para Todos

Durante as ultimas semanas, os transportes publicos têm estado nas noticias. Como muitos dos leitores já sabem, eu recebi recentemente a honra de ser nomeado presidente da mesa dirigente do TTC, a rede de transportes publicos da nossa cidade. Têm havido muitas noticias, quase todas boas, mas o que está a acontecer " por detrás " dessas noticias é tambem interessante. O meu propósito hoje é de oferecer ao leitor alguma perspectiva sobre estas noticias.

A mais recente notícia tem a ver com as verbas que foram anunciadas para completar uma linha de metropolitano (" subway ") que passará pela York University e chegará ao Vaughan Corporate Centre, que fica para além do limite urbano da nossa cidade. Este é um investimento crucial para Toronto e não só, mas não é o suficiente para melhorar o serviço em toda a cidade.

O presidente da Câmara de Toronto, David Miller e outros líderes municipais em todo o Canadá estão a exigir um plano nacional de transportes publicos para proporcionar financiamento seguro, estável e contínuo, de modo a poder expandir os sistemas de transportes publicos em todo pais durante as próximas décadas. Como o leitor deve calcular, é impossível planear para expandir uma rede de linhas subterrâneas quando o financiamento e investimento, por parte dos governos provincial e federal, é tão incerto. Ao contrário do que se imagina, a contribuição financeira dos governos provincial e federal é actualmente mínima, o que quer dizer que aumentos nos preços para o utente são, infelizmente, uma das unicas maneiras de pagar para manter o TTC em funcionamento.

Em Toronto, esta expansão acima referida terá como finalidade assegurar que os autocarros chegam sempre a tempo e a horas certas. Incluído no plano está a criação de vias exclusivas para carros eléctricos e autocarros e o aproveitamento de 'corredores' por onde actualmente só estão linhas de postes com fios de electricidade. A realidade é esta; muitos autocarros, cheios com 100 pessoas, têm muitas vezes que esperar enquanto um automóvel, com uma só pessoa, tambem espera para poder virar numa esquina, por exemplo. Isto é, 100 pessoas chegam atrasados ao emprego devido a um ou dois condutores, quase todos os dias. Isto provoca atrasos desnecessários, o que não é bom para a produtividade e a economia local e causa muito "stress". As vias exclusivas podem assegurar que os autocarros chegam a tempo.

Mas não basta falar do que podemos ter no futuro sem olhar para o que já temos. Como utente, eu próprio já verifiquei que o serviço no TTC nem sempre é o melhor. Por essa razão, no Outono, vamos colocar mais 100 autocarros novos em serviço, nas ruas mais ocupadas durante os horários de ponta. Para além disso, já conseguimos assegurar verbas para a compra de mais carros eléctricos novos, e com ar-condicionado! Estes serão os primeiros " streetcars " novos em mais de 20 anos e vão chegar em 2009.

Tambem vamos ver melhoramentos na limpeza das estações e no portal de internet (website) do TTC. Por exemplo, em breve, o utente poderá usar o website para planear viagens nos transportes publicos em diversas línguas, incluindo Português.

Por final, quero assegurar o leitor que estas são apenas algumas das mudanças que vão, no futuro próximo, melhorar a qualidade do nosso sistema de transportes publicos. Mas é necessário convencer os niveis de governo provincial e federal que estas verbas recém-anunciadas não podem ser únicas e que ainda resta muito que fazer. Todos sabemos que uma rede de transportes beneficia todos, mesmo pessoas que não utilizam transportes publicos; é bom para a economia, reduz o stress provocado por engarrafamentos no trânsito e ajuda o meio ambiente.



Councillor Adam Giambrone driving a streetcar

## Instalação de contadores de água automáticos

A Câmara Municipal de Toronto vai começar a utilizar um novo sistema de contadores de água automáticos no fim deste ano, começando pelos Bairros 18 e 28. A instalação deste novo sistema começará no Verão.

A mudança para este novo sistema municipal, vai envolver a instalação, a troca e o melhoramento dos contadores de 465, 000 clientes, para um sistema automático com um aparelho transmissor.

Todos os residentes, negócios e indústrias na Cidade de Toronto serão afectadas.

Este novo sistema vai:

- Instalar novos contadores de água em todas as residências e negócios
- Enviar facturas aos clientes por água utilizada e eliminar preços fixos
- Usar um sistema automático para ler os contadores, e eliminar a necessidade de funcionários públicos terem que estarem no local para ler os contadores.
- promover a conservação de água Não há custos para os clientes para estes novos contadores. A Maioria dos clientes que fizerem a mudança de pagamento fixo para pagamento baseado no contador reduzirão a sua conta.

(continuado na página 6)

# Environmental Information

## Thursday Alternate Side Parking

Councillor Giambrone began a street cleaning pilot project in the south sector of Ward 18 in the Spring of 2004 and a second-phase was rolled out in the Spring of 2005. The project involved switching parking to the other side of selected streets on Thursdays (from April 1st to November 30th) to allow the cleaning crews access to the side of the street where cars normally park. Residents who were involved helped fine-tune it to ensure that any inconveniences were reduced.

This Spring a third phase will be added to the existing "Thursday Alternate Side Parking Project" in the North portion of the Ward.

If you live North of Bloor Street and West of Dufferin, please check out our website at [www.adamgiambrone.ca](http://www.adamgiambrone.ca) or contact Councillor Giambrone's office to find out which streets are affected.

Residents have made it clear that clean streets are a high priority, and this project should help us achieve them! For more information, please contact Councillor Giambrone's office.

## Instalação de contadores de água automáticos (continuação da página 5)

Não há custos para os clientes para estes novos contadores. A Maioria dos clientes que fizerem a mudança de pagamento fixo para pagamento baseado no contador reduzirão a sua conta.

Calcula-se que uma família comum de 4 pessoas poderá poupar até 30%. Para dicas de como reduzir o seu consumo de água, visite [www.toronto.ca/water](http://www.toronto.ca/water).



Photo of new automatic water meters with transmitter



## Spring Tree Pruning

Spring is here and with Spring we begin to think about planting and gardening. If you have a City owned tree on your property and need to have it inspected or pruned or would like to request the planting of a tree, call the City's Urban Forestry Department.

Telephone: (416) 338-TREE (8733)  
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Mon-Fri  
After Hours Emergency - (416) 392-7737  
Email: [treessouth@toronto.ca](mailto:treessouth@toronto.ca)

## Dundas Street Track Reconstruction

Beginning in late March 2007 and continuing to late November 2007, the City of Toronto - Transportation Services (City) and the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) will be replacing streetcar tracks on Dundas Street and some sidewalk and some roadway re-surfacing where required. The project will proceed in phases and affect most parts of the 505 DUNDAS streetcar route.

The track on this streetcar route has been identified as a high priority replacement due to rail age and declining structural conditions. The existing streetcar track area will be excavated, so that new streetcar rails can be installed on a new concrete track base. The new and improved streetcar track will provide smooth and durable operation through the community.

### Dundas Street Track Reconstruction Schedule: Dates are approximate.

- March 26 - early May 2007 Bathurst St to Ossington Ave.
- April 2 - late June 2007 Victoria St (just east of Yonge St) to Bathurst St.
- April 9 - early October 2007 DVP Bridge reconstruction, includes River St to Broadview Ave.
- June 11 - early Sept. 2007 Lansdowne Ave to Brock Ave; Ossington Ave to Brock Ave.
- June 25 - early Sept. 2007 Victoria Street to River Street.
- June 25 - late November 2007 Sorauren Bridge reconstruction, includes Howard Park Ave. to Sterling Rd. (continued on page 7)

# Development Report

## Development Highlights

**1. 1245 Dupont Street (Galleria Mall)** - This re-zoning was approved in July, 2004, allowing up to 1600 residential units, and including enhancements and expansion of Wallace-Emerson Park and Community Centre. The project can go ahead when the owner chooses to begin, but intends to build it in three phases. Several of the mall tenants have long leases, which means the development will take many years once it begins.

**2. 29-51 Florence Street** - City Council has approved 36 back-to-back townhouse units with underground parking. A few conditions are left to clear before final site plan approval can be signed and registered on title. Once those conditions are met, the project can go ahead when the owner chooses to begin.

**3. 48 Havelock Street** - An OMB Hearing is scheduled for March 27 - April 12. The City has accepted the owners offer to settle.



## Dundas Street (continued from page 6)

The City and the TTC will be providing details of the construction project, lane restrictions and associated temporary transit service changes prior to each phase of work beginning and the details of the construction project will be posted on the City of Toronto website and the TTC website.

### Traffic and Parking Restrictions:

Once track reconstruction is underway, both track lanes and one curb lane will become the construction zone. The westbound curb lane will be maintained through the construction zones west of Victoria Street. The eastbound curb lane will be maintained through the construction zones east of Victoria Street. On-street parking will not be allowed within the limits of each construction zone. For safety reasons, bicyclists are encouraged to dismount and walk on the sidewalks within each of construction zones.

### Transit Service Changes:

During phases of this project, streetcars on 505 Dundas route will be diverted around the construction zones via: College Street, Carlton Street and Gerrard Street. Details of the diversions will be provided prior to routing changes. Up-to-date routing details are available by calling the TTC Information Line at 416-393-INFO (4636) or visiting the TTC website at [www.ttc.ca](http://www.ttc.ca).

The settlement involved a 3-storey u-shaped building on the site with a courtyard and underground parking. The contentious "back building" has been removed from the proposal. The OMB will still proceed with the hearing at which other parties also have standing. The offer included rental replacement in a new 19-unit development at 767 Dovercourt.

**4. West Queen West Triangle Area** - The OMB ruled in the early part of 2007. The City has appealed the OMB decision which included a number of high-rise residential towers. The City's appeal focuses on the need for the protection of the local arts community as an economic generator. The appeal has gone to the Provincial Government, the OMB itself and the Ontario Divisional Court. The Province has refused to intervene. We are awaiting word from the Ontario Divisional Court after which the OMB will decide its course.

Mayor Miller and Councillor Giambrone have identified the appeal of this ruling as being of key importance to the City and evidence of needed OMB reform.

**5. 351 Wallace Avenue** - A settlement has been reached with the owner and approved by the OMB. No application for site plan approval has been received to date.

**6. 1359 Dupont Street** - City Council approved the re-zoning application. A site plan has also been received and awaits approval.

**7. 45 Lisgar Street** - The OMB has deferred consideration until the Ontario Divisional Court considers the West Queen West appeal.

**8. 1379 Bloor Street W** - The original proposal for the West tower has been reduced to a proposal for stacked townhouses.

**9. 800 Lansdowne** - Phase 3 of the old site plan application is on hold. The applicant is seeking approval through the Committee of Adjustment to replace one of the apartment buildings with stacked townhouses instead.



# Transit Report



Artistic rendering of possible new light rail transit for the Transit City Plan

## Toronto Transit City

On March 16, Councillor Giambrone and the TTC announced "Toronto Transit City - Light Rail Plan". This is an important plan towards building a network of fast, reliable, electric light-rail transit lines to attract people out of their cars and onto environmentally-friendly public transport.

Transit ridership in all of Canada's major cities continues to grow. In Toronto, the TTC's ridership grew by 27 million riders between 2004 and 2006, from 418 million per year in 2004 to 445 million per year in 2006. Ridership is continuing to increase at a steady rate.



The plan is premised on developing a widely-spaced network of electric light-rail lines, each on its own right-of-way. The lines reach all across Toronto, all connecting with the city's existing and planned rapid transit routes.

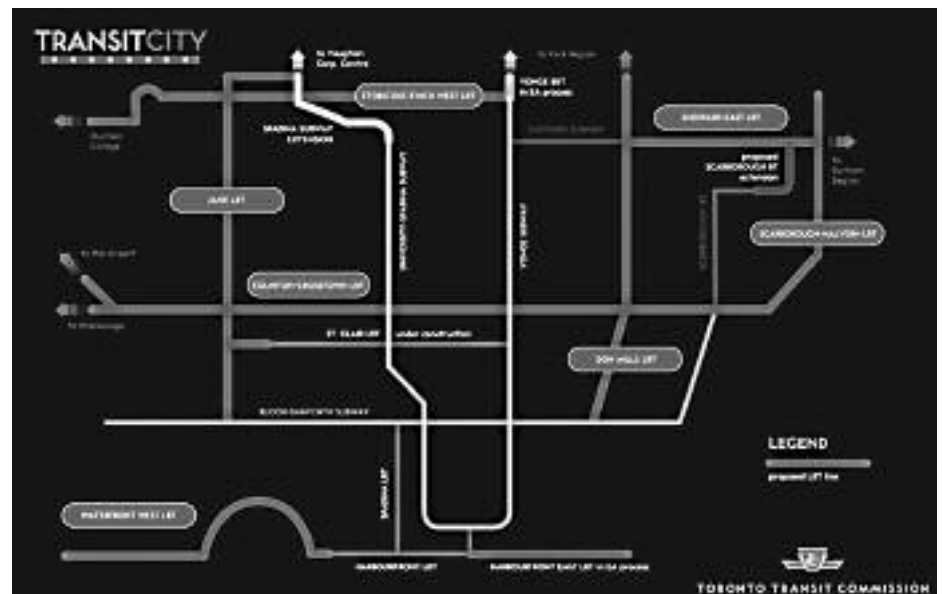
In total, 120 km of service will be added over the entire city. By 2021, the new lines would carry 175 million riders per year. The estimated cost including vehicles is \$6.1 billion.

The seven corridors suggested for the Toronto Transit City Plan - Light Rail are:

- Don Mills - Steeles Avenue to Bloor-Danforth Subway
- Eglinton Crosstown - Kennedy Station to Pearson Airport
- Etobicoke-Finch West - Yonge Street to Highway 27
- Jane - Jane Station to Steeles West Station
- Scarborough Malvern - Kennedy Station to Malvern/Morningside
- Sheppard East - Don Mills Station to Morningside Avenue
- Waterfront West - Union Station/Exhibition to Long Branch

Toronto is aiming to be a world leader in combating climate change and global warming. Building a network of fast, reliable, electric light-rail transit lines to attract people out of their cars and onto environmentally-friendly public transport, is fundamental to this objective.

Learn more about Toronto Transit City - Light Rail Plan by visiting [www.transitcity.ca](http://www.transitcity.ca).



## City Contacts

### Important Numbers for City Services

Councillor Adam Giambrone  
(416) 392-7012

Access Toronto (City of Toronto Info)  
(416) 338-0338

Toronto Waste Management  
(416) 392-8285  
Other Waste Issues  
(416) 39-CLEAN (25326)  
Hazardous Household Waste  
(416) 392-4330  
Road Information  
(416) 599-9090

Toronto Police Services  
11 Division - (416) 808-1100  
14 Division - (416) 808-1400

Toronto Urban Forestry  
(416) 338-TREE (8733)

Toronto Public Health  
(416) 338-7000

Building Permits/Zoning Information  
(416) 392-7539

Toronto Animal Services  
(416) 388-PAWS (7297)

Toronto Transit Commission Information  
(416) 392-INFO (4636)