

Region ready to start building final northwest part of BAR

Peel Region will begin construction on the last component of the Bolton Arterial Road (BAR) next week.

Completion of BAR, sometimes referred to as the Bolton Bypass, will help ease traffic through the downtown core.

Construction of the final component is expected to begin Monday (July 15). The Region expects it will be completed by the end of 2014.

The new road will connect with Coleraine Drive to complete the bypass around the northwest quadrant of Bolton, eliminating the need for through traffic to use Queen Street. Construction will include two roundabouts, two new bridges and a multi-use trail that connects to the existing Humber Valley Heritage Trail. BAR will primarily be a two-lane road, except from Harvest Moon Drive to Duffy's Lane, where it will be four lanes.

"The Bolton Arterial Road is strategically significant for transportation in and through Peel as it helps to address the current needs of the community and prepares Peel for future growth," said Regional Chair Emil Kolb. "The Region of Peel worked carefully to plan and budget this project to ensure that the BAR performs well for businesses and residents of Caledon. This is a win-win opportunity for goods movement in Peel which is vital to our economy and job growth, and supports the quality of life for nearby residents concerned with Queen Street traffic. Peel will also advance the trail network by saving the existing bridge and converting it for cycling and walking as part of a new trail to encourage positive lifestyle choices and provide safe travel separated from traffic."

"Diverting through traffic away from Queen Street will reduce volumes while improving public safety within the Bolton core," observed Mayor Marolyn Morrison. "This project enhances the natural environment and incorporates a number of measures to minimize impacts on it. The BAR is an investment in the community with built-in benefits to residents. After years of planning, the BAR will soon become a reality and an important part of Caledon and Peel's transportation infrastructure."

"Approximately 20 years ago, a process began to identify a road network that will help carry increasing traffic volumes in and through Bolton as it continues to grow," said Councillor Richard Whitehead. "The network will relieve traffic volumes through the core while addressing watercourse protection and enhancing the environmental landscape. Our landscaping plans include thousands of plantings, and a new multi-use trail will connect the community to the Humber Valley Heritage Trail."

The plan includes the first two-lane roundabouts in Peel. They will be at the new King Street West alignment intersecting with the BAR and at the intersection of the BAR and Highway 50 north of the village.

The two new bridges will span the existing West Humber River, and will include realignment of an existing channel, detailed construction staging to ensure that there are no impacts downstream or upstream of the construction area, and restoration and extensive landscaping to enhance watercourse protection to minimize environmental impacts. Substantial erosion and sedimentation control measures are also being implemented to mitigate any potential impacts to the environment throughout the entire construction process.

A detailed landscaping plan will be implemented for the entire length of the project. It includes planting approximately 2,150 trees and 3,400 shrubs and perennials of various species.

The new multi-use trail starts at King Street West ? Harvest Moon Drive and leads to the existing West Humber River bridge that will be converted exclusively for cycling and pedestrian use, and connect to the existing Humber Valley Heritage Trail.



Construction on the final portion of the Bolton Arterial Road (BAR) is set to begin next week, and a host of officials from the Town, Peel Region and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) were out on Duffy's Lane Monday to mark the occasion, including Councillor Rob Mezzapelli, TRCA Senior Planner Sharon Lingertat, Councillors Allan Thompson and Nick deBoer, Mayor Marolyn Morrison, Regional Chair Emil Kolb, Councillor Patti Foley and Regional Commissioner of Public Works Daniel

Labrecque.Photo by Bill Rea



Bob Nieuwenhuysen, manager of roads capital for the Region and original project manager for the BAR, was going over a map of the project with Councillor Rob Mezzapelli, Regional Commissioner of Public Works Daniel Labrecque, Regional Director of Transportation Damian Albanese and Councillor Allan Thompson.Photo by Bill Rea