

TORONTO'S PIVOTAL PILOT PROJECTS



Bloor Street Bike Lane Pilot

Bloor Street is a vibrant corridor lined with shops, restaurants, entertainment venues, museums and a university. With the number of cyclists using Bloor Street exceeding 3,000 per day, documented cyclist safety concerns and an increasing amount of community demand, the City initiated a feasibility study of cycling facilities on Bloor Street. In August 2016, following an extensive public consultation process, separated bike lanes (cycle tracks) were installed as a pilot project on Bloor Street West from Shaw Street to Avenue Road (1.5mi/2.4km). During the pilot, parking was reduced by approximately 50% and vehicle lanes were reduced to one traffic lane in each direction. Extensive before and after data was collected to evaluate the performance of the pilot on the cycling environment, the motoring environment, curbside demands and parking, local businesses, public perception and support. A report on the project will be brought forward to City Council in Fall 2017.

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A few key findings:

- Cycling volumes up 49% (from 3,310 to 4,930)
- Increase of 82% more respondents felt safe after installation (3% before and 85% after)
- Increase in travel times after initial installation cut in half to about 2 - 4 minutes by operational improvements
- Travel times on parallel corridors minimally impacted (+/- less than one minute)
- 90% of visitors came to Bloor without using a car
- Parking utilization was over capacity (85%) and drivers reported difficulty in finding parking but parking revenue stayed about the same

King Street Transit Pilot

The King Street Transit Pilot is an innovative transit priority initiative in the core of downtown Toronto. King Street is the busiest surface transit route in the entire city, moving more than 65,000 riders on an average weekday, compared to only 20,000 vehicles. Yet, King Street is not working well for transit -- streetcar service can be slow and unreliable. This project is about improving transit reliability, speed, and capacity and putting people and transit first. Through a highly consultative design process, through movements for private vehicles will be prohibited with access maintained on a block by block basis. The curb lane will be optimized to provide dedicated spaces for streetcar passengers to board and alight, maintain access to businesses for pick-ups/drop-offs and deliveries, and open-up space for public realm improvements. The pilot will be installed in November 2017.



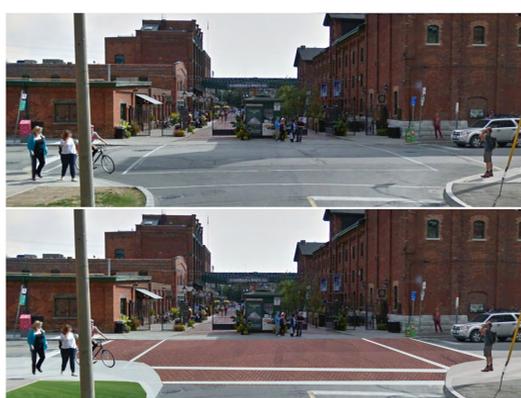
EVERY EXPERIENCE ON TORONTO'S STREETS COUNTS

City of Toronto Transportation Services Division through collaborative partnerships with other City Divisions and public and private sector organizations has developed and is implementing a series of guidelines and directives (Complete Streets, Green Streets, Vision Zero) and programs (StreetARToronto) for roads, lanes, boulevards, underpasses and street facing buildings to improve the experience for all road users in a manner that advances Council's Strategic Goals of city building, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, social development, good governance and fiscal sustainability.



Market Street

Toronto's first flexible street. Cafes in summer; parking on both sides in winter; and closed to vehicle traffic entirely for special events. Transformation implemented through partnership with private sector development.



Distillery Historic District

Sidewalk widening, pedestrian safety improvements, tour bus parking, paving stone intersection, street trees and streetscape beautification to support major heritage attraction and residential redevelopment.



Holbrooke Avenue

Bioswale absorbs runoff and provides a buffer for pedestrians including children walking to/from school and improves visual appearance of streetscape. An example of how any street, however modest offers the opportunity to improve the user experience.



Neighbourhood Improvements

Right turn channelization removed and replaced with additional green space to improve safety by eliminating unnecessary crossing for pedestrians going to/from adjacent park. Green space to be maintained by private property owner.



StreetARToronto

Word mural speaks to positive transformation of the local community which includes a formerly isolated mental health facility now integrated as an active park area serving residents and visitors.



StreetARToronto

Murals commissioned by the City's Transportation Services Division in partnership with arts organizations removes graffiti vandalism and replaces with artwork that adds colour and vibrancy to the streetscape. Murals encourage active transportation (walking, cycling); strengthen pride of place within communities; and showcase Toronto based artists and the city as a centre of creativity.