

Bay St E

One way vs two way configuration

Bill Abbotts February 2025

I would like to comment on the options of one way vs two way traffic on the Bay St E project.

During the PIC Jamie, the engineer stated two way traffic was possible by increasing the pavement width by the small amount of .5 metres to give a 6.5 metre pavement width. The staff report mentions a 6.2 metre two way road which is an increase of less than 8" for us of the older generation. The required dig for underground infrastructure is already wider so I can't understand why more trees would be lost by widening the pavement?

In answer to my question about contra flow for cyclists Mr. Witherspoon responded it would happen and would need to be accommodated. How more safely than a two way street with painted lines?

Although I don't live on the street I do quite often cycle there, either on my road bike or with a grandchild in a trailer. It is a popular area for cyclists and pedestrians. I believe a two way solution would be far safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Another thing to consider in a one way solution is the amount of vehicles that will be added to the already busy Hwy 26 to travel westerly.

One could even guess that residents close to the crossroads would go the wrong way at times rather than go all the way around.

Does a 6 metre one way road encourage speeding vs lanes both ways at 3.25 metres each? I believe so, as motorists drive to the perceived safe speed limit and a wider one way road seems more open. Speed limit signs mean nothing. If you need them the street has not been designed properly.

I have spoken to a few residents on the street and they are in favour of a two way street if it only requires adding .5 metres to the pavement

When the concept of one way first came to light, I assumed it was only for Bay St E from Elgin St to Grey St. I was surprised when Bay St from Mill St to Elgin St in front of Bayview Park was included as one way.

This road will be in place for the next 50+ years so lets do it right.

Bay St E beside Bayview Park Rotary Pavillion

This slide from the PIC presentation shows pedestrians and a cyclist.

The pedestrians are walking the same way as traffic flow with their back to the traffic instead of facing traffic.

The cyclist is travelling in the opposite direction to traffic flow – contra flow.

Mr Witherspoon agreed this would happen and would need to be accommodated. **How?**

Painted lines and/or different coloured pavement? What widths?

Would a two way road not be safer for everyone?

Cyclists could travel in the same direction as motor vehicles as normal and pedestrians could walk facing traffic as recommended.



PROPOSED CONDITION – 101 BAY ST. E.

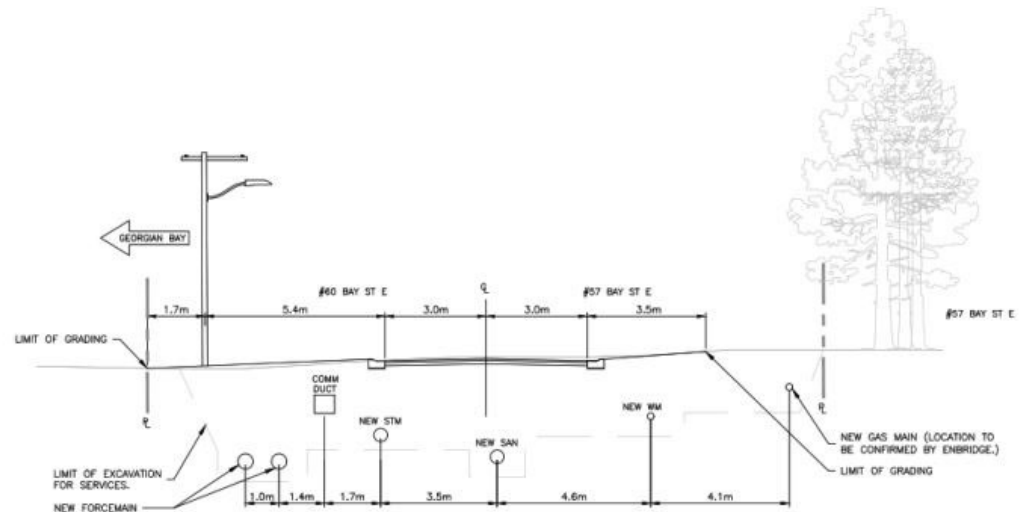
Bay St E

Typical cross section

This typical cross section shows clearly that the road pavement width is **not** the determining factor for the construction width.

The underground facilities and their required separations are what determines the required width of the construction dig.

How can adding .2 metres mentioned in the staff report to the pavement width make any difference to the required width of the construction dig underground?



PROPOSED CROSS-SECTION – 57 BAY ST. E.

Which street would encourage motorists to drive faster?

The left one that seems to have a centre line for two way or the right one that looks like a wide open single lane? I know which one I would be more cautious on.



EXISTING CONDITION – 135/136 BAY ST. E.



PROPOSED CONDITION – 135/136 BAY ST E.

Coloured pavement for clear definition of cycling and/or pedestrian facility



Bay St E → Hwy 26

What is the local traffic impact of Bay St E being one way?

Also what are the impacts on Huron St E, McAuley St N and Cottage Ave?

Highway 26 is a very busy road.

Traffic is often backed up on Hwy 26 heading westerly as far as Grey St.

With Bay St E being one way easterly Highway 26 becomes the west bound route to Town Hall, pharmacy, groceries, LCBO, banking, post office, etc.

More traffic on an already very congested road?

Map of Project Area



Thankyou for your
time and attention

Questions?

Traffic calming

An example of traffic calming infrastructure for traffic on Bay St E

