

PLESSIS ROAD Underpass

NEWSLETTER

Project Update

Construction of the Plessis Road underpass is underway and Plessis Road has been closed between Dugald Road and Kernaghan Avenue since July 28, 2013. The installation of watermains and sewers, as well as the construction of a rail detour embankment are ongoing. Although there may be times when construction activities are not visible, work is ongoing with other components of the project.

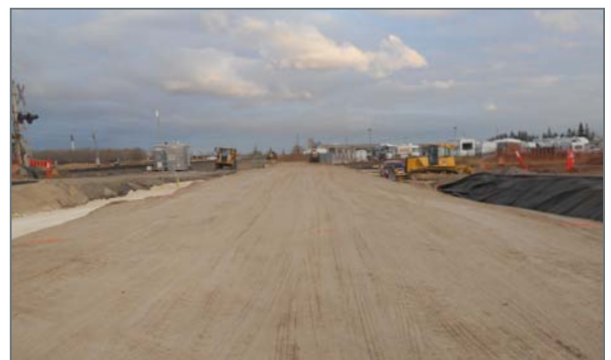
Project Background



The Plessis Road Underpass project was announced as a \$77-million initiative cost-shared by the Federal (Building Canada Fund; \$25-million), Provincial (\$25-million) and City of Winnipeg (\$27-million) governments. The City of Winnipeg is coordinating the design and construction of the project in conjunction with local engineering firms and contractors.

As part of the \$27-million from the City of Winnipeg, the city budgeted an additional \$2-million to this project to cover ineligible costs identified by the Building Canada Fund. Ineligible costs include costs incurred prior to federal approval-in-principle, overhead and administration expenditures, expenditures related to contracts signed prior to federal approval-in-principle, expenditures incurred after the project completion date and costs of purchasing land. In the worst-case scenario, the City's contribution to the project could be as high as \$32.6-million rather than \$27-million and Federal and Provincial contributions could be as low as \$22.2-million.

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|---|-----------------------|
| Total Projected Costs | \$77 million |
| Less Ineligible Costs (worst-case scenario) | - \$10.4 million |
| Total Eligible Costs | \$66.6 million |
| | |
| Provincial Funding (1/3 of eligible costs) | \$22.2 million |
| Federal Funding (1/3 of eligible costs) | \$22.2 million |
| Required City Funding | \$32.6 million |
| Total Project Budget | \$77 million |



The City of Winnipeg has requested that a funding extension be granted beyond 2014, so more project costs are eligible for reimbursement. Any additional City funding required will be addressed once agreements with Federal and Provincial funding partners are finalized. The City remains committed to having two lanes open on Plessis Road by the end of 2014.

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Plessis Road Closure

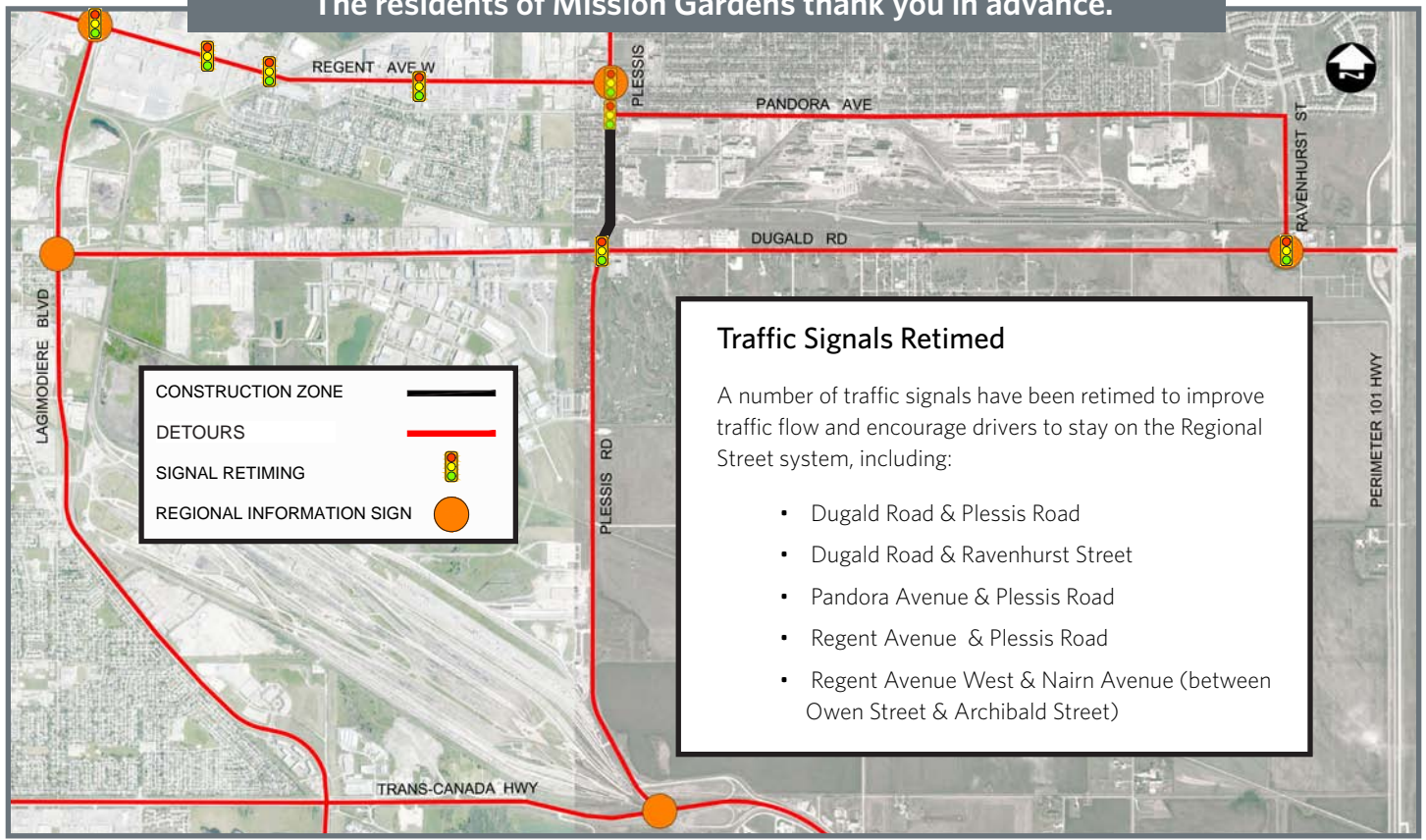
Building a temporary road at the construction site was considered by the City early in the design process. The closure of Plessis Road was selected to expedite completion of the underpass. Factors considered in the decision were the high throwaway cost of \$7-10 million to construct a temporary road and delaying completion of the project up to 1.5 years. Although we are requesting an extension to the overall project completion date, it remains the City's primary goal to have at least two lanes open to traffic on Plessis Road by the end of December, 2014.

Temporary Traffic Delays

Detours designated for traffic during the closing of Plessis Road include Lagimodiere Boulevard and Ravenhurst Street (north-south traffic) and Regent Avenue West/Pandora Avenue and Dugald Road (east-west traffic). The City's plan is to move traffic as efficiently as possible on Regional Streets in order to minimize the incentive to shortcut through neighbourhoods.

Regional information signs have been installed at key intersections to encourage motorists to use alternative Regional Streets before entering the area. A number of traffic signals have been retimed and the Transit Diamond Lanes on Regent Avenue West have been temporarily suspended between Plessis Road and Rougeau Avenue to improve traffic flow and encourage drivers to stay on the Regional Street system.

Please use the official City designated detours outlined in red. The residents of Mission Gardens thank you in advance.

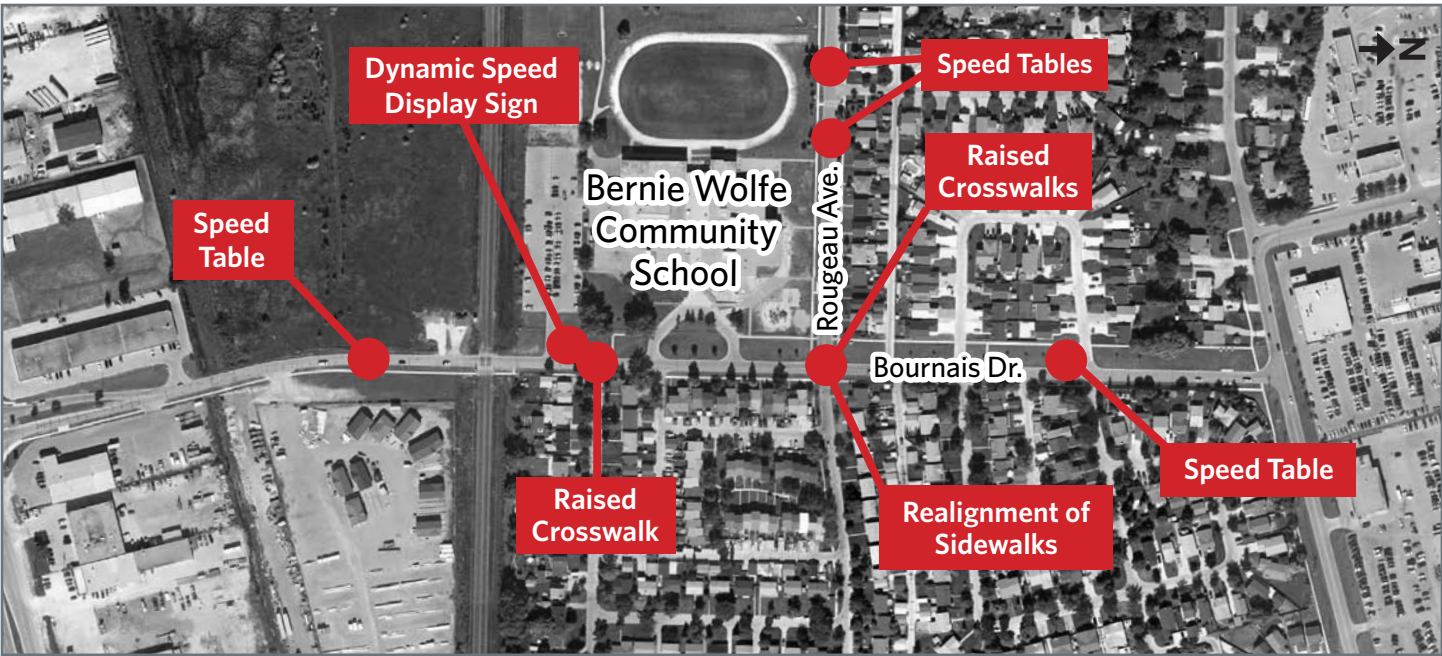


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Traffic Calming Measures in Mission Gardens

The following steps to address pedestrian safety have been implemented by the City in the vicinity of Bernie Wolfe School while traffic is continually being monitored along Bournais Drive:

- ✓ Enhanced traffic enforcement by the Winnipeg Police Service.
- ✓ Speed management using the dynamic speed feedback information sign.
- ✓ Signage indicating reduced speed limits in school zones is expected.
- ✓ Realign Bournais Drive sidewalk at Rougeau Avenue to increase pedestrian visibility and safety.
- ✓ Additional adult crossing guards at Bernie Wolfe Community School for the duration of construction.
- ✓ New traffic calming devices (speed tables and raised crosswalks) on Bournais Drive and Rougeau Avenue to reduce speeds adjacent to the school.
- ✓ Additional signage installed, reminding drivers that Bournais Drive is not a truck route.



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Transit Routes

Transit routes "49 Dugald" and "87 South Transcona-Crossroads" have been temporarily relocated from Plessis Road to Bournais Drive. For additional information on transit routes, please visit the Winnipeg Transit website: <http://winnipegtransit.com/en>.



Utility Disruption

Future utility disruptions may occur periodically. Project team members will contact all affected residents and businesses in advance to notify them of any disruption.



Project Schedule

To date, CN has been unable to provide the timely and sustained resources required for the City to meet previously anticipated accomplishment targets. The project schedule is aggressive and the City has requested that the Federal and Provincial governments approve an extension to the completion date to alleviate the risk of delays by other project stakeholders. An extension will allow flexibility in the schedule and reduce costs in 2015 that would otherwise be ineligible for Federal and Provincial reimbursement as identified on page one. The City remains committed to having two lanes open on Plessis Road by the end of 2014. This could be jeopardized if CN does not cooperate.

Further Information

For inquiries, please contact: **311** or email 311@winnipeg.ca

For detailed project information and project updates, visit: <http://winnipeg.ca/plessisunderpass>

