

Rail Corridor Vegetation and Tree Clearing

February 2022

Background

Work is underway to deliver the GO Expansion Program - the largest transit expansion in Canadian history.

To allow **fast, quiet, electrified, two-way, all-day service** that will come with GO Expansion, Metrolinx will build new track, signals, rail facilities and electrification infrastructure, modify and build bridges, and improve crossings across the core segments of the GO rail network.

Ongoing vegetation control inside rail corridors is essential to operating safe and reliable GO train service. GO Expansion requires an enhanced approach for trees and vegetation to create room for and protect new infrastructure, and to optimize corridor safety.

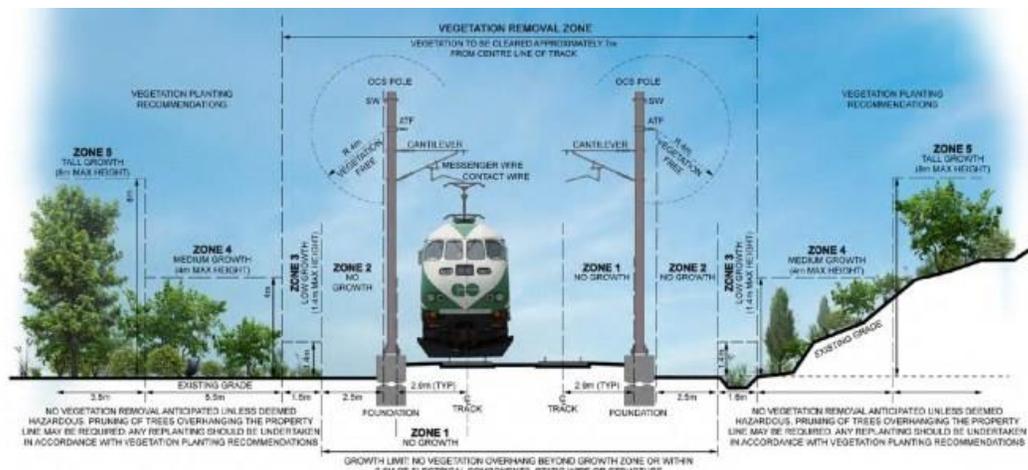
Our long-term strategy is based on other successful vegetation management programs that support regional rail services similar to GO Transit across the world.

Native trees removed as part of this work will be replaced within the City of Toronto through a compensation program based on the Metrolinx Vegetation Guideline (2020). The program will increase the tree count in the region.

What work is taking place?

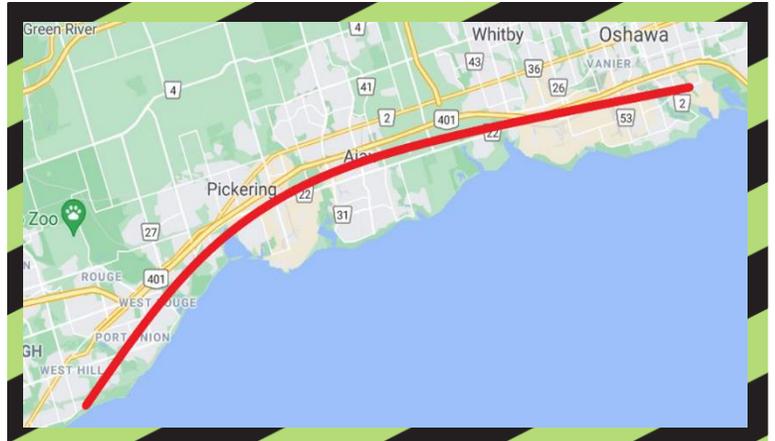
Crews will clear and remove some of the trees and vegetation located within the rail corridor between Thickson Road, Whitby and Portwine Drive, Toronto.

Once cleared, growth control zones will be established to manage vegetation inside the corridors over the long term. A cross-section of the future rail corridor is shown below.



Timing and what to expect

- This work will begin in early August 2021 and crews will work across this segment of corridor into winter 2022.
- Work may be rescheduled due to weather, or unforeseen circumstances.
- The majority of work will take place between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays. Some weekend work may be required.
- Work will be conducted as quickly and efficiently as possible to minimize disturbances, but residents and businesses near the corridor can expect to hear noise caused by trucks, chainsaws, woodchippers and other construction equipment related to this work.
- Residents may see crews in and around the corridor pruning and inspecting vegetation for the next few years.
- Residents may see dots on trees and blue stakes within the rail corridor for trees identified for removal or pruning.
- Please exercise caution around active construction sites.



Long-term local benefits to the community

Limited frequency and intrusiveness of future vegetation maintenance. Future electrification of GO service - faster, more frequent service, quieter trains and better air quality.

For more information on the GO Expansion vegetation removal and compensation program, visit metrolinx.com/vegetation.

Questions

If you have any questions about this work or would like to be included on future email communications from us, please do not hesitate to call us at 416-202-3900 or email us at TorontoEast@metrolinx.com (Toronto inquires) or DurhamRegion@metrolinx.com (Pickering inquires).

Thank you for your patience as we work to transform the rail corridor in your area.

Disponible en français

Contact Us:

Write to us at: TorontoEast@metrolinx.com or DurhamRegion@metrolinx.com

Find us on Twitter @GOExpansion

Visit the website: <http://www.metrolinx.com/lakeshoreeast>

Call: (416) 202-3900