



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **City completes Sophia Creek project ahead of schedule**

***Project includes painting of new rainbow crosswalk***

(Barrie, ON) – The City of Barrie is pleased to announce the early completion of the Sophia Creek Owen Tributary Storm Outlet project, an important step in strengthening stormwater infrastructure in the city's downtown core.

Located between [Memorial Square](#) and the Bayfield Basin, this project began in August 2024 and was completed ahead of schedule. The work focused on enhancing stormwater capacity and improving public spaces to help reduce the risk of flooding downtown, supporting the City's [Climate Change Adaptation Strategy](#) goals.

"This project future proofs our downtown from flooding while also improving public spaces for residents and visitors to enjoy," said Mayor Alex Nuttall. "We're grateful to Arnott Construction Limited for their outstanding work and professionalism in delivering this important project ahead of schedule."

This construction project features the following:

- Installation of a trunk storm sewer through [Heritage Park](#)
- Dredging within the Bayfield Basin
- Paving of a new multi-use pathway
- Improvements to Heritage Park and the transient marina area
- Sod and coloured concrete installation at Meridian Place

As part of the restoration efforts, a new rainbow crosswalk was painted on Simcoe Street, symbolizing Barrie's ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The City thanks local residents, businesses, and visitors for their patience and support throughout construction. Barrie remains committed to investing in infrastructure that builds resilience and enhances public spaces for all.

For more information about this project, visit the Sophia Creek Owen Tributary Storm Outlet from Memorial Square page on [barrie.ca/RoadWork](https://barrie.ca/RoadWork).

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