



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Friday, September 20, 2024**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Residents invited to public meeting to provide input on Bayfield Street transportation improvements project**

(Barrie, ON) – The City of Barrie will be making transportation improvements on Bayfield Street and wants to hear from residents on their current experience and what changes the City should prioritize for the future.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is planning to replace the existing Bayfield Street interchange and bridge, tentatively starting in 2026. To support MTO's project, the City needs to make transportation improvements on Bayfield Street north of the interchange, as well as work with the MTO to incorporate active transportation infrastructure within their project limits.

These improvements could include:

- adding lanes and improving intersections to help with traffic congestion
- road safety improvements including the potential for a raised median
- adding more pedestrian and cycling options like wider sidewalks or separated bike lanes
- examining new smart traffic signal technology
- enhancing public transit by improving bus stops/shelters and examining transit supportive infrastructure
- streetscape improvements for additional green spaces and trees

A Public Information Centre meeting regarding this project will take place next week:

**Date:** Monday, September 23, 2024  
**Time:** 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Location:** East Bayfield Community Centre (Multi-Purpose Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
80 Livingstone Street East

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting to speak with the project team. At this drop-in event, the latest project information will be shared, including feedback from the public survey. As well, preliminary design concepts will be displayed.

After gathering all public input, the City will work on developing alternative design plans which will be presented to the public in spring 2025. Subject to Council and budget approvals, construction of the City's improvements on Bayfield Street is currently anticipated to start following completion of the MTO's project.

Learn more about the project and provide feedback at [buildingbarrie.ca/BayfieldStudy](https://buildingbarrie.ca/BayfieldStudy).

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