



***MEDIA RELEASE***

**Friday, August 16, 2024**

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

## **Storm outlet construction project near Meridian Square to start next week**

Barrie, ON – The Sophia Creek Owen Tributary Storm Outlet project is set to begin early next week, and work will take place throughout this summer and fall, and into the winter months.

The project includes installing a new trunk storm sewer across Simcoe Street to Bayfield Basin through Heritage Park, to help prevent flooding in the downtown core when there's heavy rainfall. The planned work is a result of an environmental assessment and aligns with the Barrie's [Climate Change Adaptation Strategy](#).

Some pedestrian trails and walkways in the area will be closed at times. Simcoe Street will remain open, with eastbound direction only being provided Monday to Friday from Bayfield Street to Mulcaster Street, and both directions open on the weekends.

As well, the existing rainbow crosswalk will be removed and replaced with a more robust product that will be longer lasting, more vibrant, and visible.

During construction, pedestrians and drivers are reminded to follow signage to detour safely through the area.

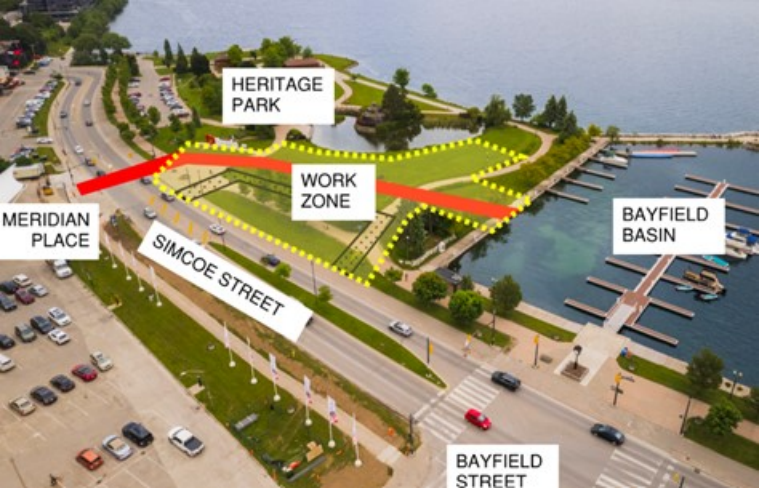
The entire project is expected to be completed by early summer 2025.

For more information, visit the [Sophia Creek Owen Tributary Storm Outlet from Memorial Square](#) project page.

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***For more information, please contact:***

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HERITAGE  
PARK

WORK  
ZONE

MERIDIAN  
PLACE

SIMCOE STREET

BAYFIELD  
BASIN

BAYFIELD  
STREET