

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More improvements to downtown with Dunlop Street construction

(Barrie, ON) Downtown Barrie is about to get even better. The City of Barrie is preparing to embark on an important project on Dunlop Street to replace aging infrastructure, expand sidewalks and beautify the historic street. With proposed intensification in the downtown, this corridor is an essential component to the success of the downtown revitalization and the City of Barrie's Downtown Commercial Master Plan.

"This project will not only replace aging infrastructure, it will improve the pedestrian experience while providing downtown businesses with more attractive, and accessible storefronts." said Mayor Jeff Lehman

"We want everyone to know that downtown Barrie will be OPEN FOR BUSINESS during construction, said Denise Tucker, BIA Chair. Come on down, support our amazing independent businesses and show us that you dig downtown too!"

The construction timelines are outlined below:

- **Preliminary Phase August 19 to November 8, 2019** Dunlop Street closed from Mulcaster to Poyntz St., including intersection of Dunlop and Mulcaster
- Phase 1A –September 9 to November 8, 2019 Dunlop Street closed between Poyntz Street and Owen Street.
- Phase 1B will start after completion of Phase 1A (tentatively spring 2020 to summer 2020) Dunlop Street closed between Owen Street and Bayfield Street and the Five Point intersection.
- Phase 2 will start after completion of Phase 1B (tentatively summer 2020 to fall 2020) Dunlop Street between Bayfield Street and Toronto Street (work will occur block by block).

All downtown businesses will be open during construction. Although Dunlop Street will be closed to vehicle traffic in the sections noted above, it will remain open to pedestrians. Starting September 9, free parking for patrons to downtown businesses will be provided for a maximum of two hours on the fourth floor of the <u>Collier</u> <u>Street Parkade</u>.

The work is being completed in partnership with the <u>Business Improvement Area</u> (BIA). The roadway improvements are part of the City's capital plan for asset reconstruction. The streetscape elements/beautification are funded by the City, the BIA and the City's Municipal Accommodation Tax (Tourism).

For more information and updates, visit barrie.ca/DigDowntown.

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For more information, please contact: Scott LaMantia Senior Communications Advisor scott.lamantia@barrie.ca 705-739-4220 x4529