

BULLETIN #21:

2019 Year in Review



Significant progress was made on the Highway 427 Expansion Project in 2019. This Bulletin provides a recap of some of the successes the project had in 2019.

Road Shifts

At the end of 2019, the road alignments for both Major Mackenzie Drive and Langstaff Road shifted several metres to the north. Shifting these roads was necessary to accommodate two future interchanges being built as part of the Highway 427 Extension. New bridges were built to accommodate the road shifts. Each road shift occurred overnight, with Langstaff Road shifted on November 29, 2019 and Major Mackenzie Drive shifted on December 20, 2019. The old road alignments for both Langstaff Road and Major Mackenzie Drive have been permanently closed.



Vehicles driving on the new alignment of Langstaff Road. The old alignment of the road can be seen in the right half of the photo. Langstaff Road was shifted on November 29, 2019.



Diagram illustrating how Langstaff Road shifted at the end of 2019. Diagram not to scale.



 Road Alignment before the Shift



Road Alignment after the Shift

Diagram illustrating how Major Mackenzie Drive shifted at the end of 2019. Diagram not to scale.

Paving Began

At the end of July 2019, paving on the 6.6-kilometre extension of the Highway 427 Expansion began. Paving began just north of Zenway Boulevard and will continue northward from Highway 7 to Major Mackenzie Drive as construction proceeds.



Paving work north of Zenway Boulevard.



Albion Bridge Relocation

The Albion Bridge relocation occurred in June 2019. The bridge relocation showcased collaboration between LINK427 and the Ministry of Transportation. The initial plan for the Albion Bridge was to demolish part of the structure and rebuild it, however the existing bridge was in good condition. This made relocating the bridge 6 metres to the west possible. This approach was ideal to reduce social and economic impacts from demolishing the existing bridge and then reconstructing it. To find out more about the Albion Bridge relocation you can read [Bulletin 16](#) or [watch the time-lapse video of the relocation](#).

Albion Bridge near the end of the relocation process.

Environment

LINK427 conducted more than 200 environmental inspections across the Highway 427 Expansion Project in 2019. Inspections are done to ensure environmental quality and compliance across the expanse of the project. Dewatering stations were built as needed across the Highway 427 Expansion Project in 2019 as part of LINK427's environmental work. A dewatering station is used to control the release of sediment-laden surface water by filtering out soil particles and promoting the permeation of the filtered surface water into the ground. At the same time, this reduces the risk of contaminated water affecting sensitive environments. Other environmental activities LINK427 carried out in 2019 included performing erosion and sediment control, waste management, vegetation restoration and hydroseeding, as well as invasive species control.



Dewatering station with sediment bags near Rainbow Creek.



Workers pouring concrete in the northbound lanes of Highway 427.

Employment

Major infrastructure projects such as the Highway 427 Expansion Project provide employment opportunities for many people. On weekdays there are usually 250-300 people performing work on the site.

Winter Construction

At the end of 2019 the Highway 427 widening section was staged for winter to optimize the road for snow clearing. This means the shoulders of the road are kept wider for snow storage and the lanes were configured in a way that makes it easier for plows to navigate. Some construction will continue over the winter months as the Highway 427 Expansion Project progresses towards completion. Some of the work to be done over the next few months includes bridge construction and drainage and electrical work.

Please stay alert, slow down and drive safely in winter conditions, especially when driving through work zones. Help us keep the roads safe for all users.

What is the Highway 427 Expansion Project?

The Highway 427 Expansion project will extend the highway 6.6 km, from Highway 7 to Major Mackenzie Drive and widen the existing highway to 8 lanes between Finch Avenue and Highway 7.

Who is LINK427?

LINK427 is the consortium selected by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Infrastructure Ontario (IO) to design, build, finance, and maintain the Highway 427 widening and extension.

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