



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	February 11, 2022
SUBJECT:	Safety Concern on Sydenham Road (CRO22001) (Ward 13)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 13
SUBMITTED BY:	Edward Soldo, P.Eng. Chief Road Official Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

In January 2020, City Council approved Policy HR-01-09, Sharing of Consultant Reports with Identified Imminent Risk to Human Health or Safety, which requires staff to ensure Council is promptly and appropriately informed of any identified imminent danger to human health or safety.

To ensure Council and the community are appropriately informed, Public Works staff are sharing details about a safety concern on Sydenham Road in Dundas.

As part of the escarpment stabilization program, the City conducts slope inspections every five years at all escarpment crossings across Hamilton. For the 2020 slope inspections, Engineering Services retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake the work. Stantec's report was submitted to the City on February 4, 2022 and it noted that there is a large undermined column of rock with a high potential of failure on Sydenham Road.

The consultant followed up with Engineering Services staff on February 8, 2022 to highlight the concerns regarding the escarpment rock issue. They identified that an existing rock column of significant size (approximately 11 metres high by 3 metres wide and up to 3 metres deep) is undermined and partly detached from the escarpment face.

The consultant also noted that there is rock debris, from a previous rock slope failure, found at the base of the rock face, adjacent to the roadway barriers within the debris catchment area. It was recommended that the existing debris in the catchment area be removed to increase the catchment capacity and reduce the risk of future rock falls from

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spilling onto the roadway and that rock scaling be conducted to detach and remove the partially detached rock column.

The issue was referred to the Transportation Operations & Maintenance division, and debris will be removed from the catchment area on Friday, February 11, 2022. The work will require a two-lane closure on Sydenham Road, but access will still be available to the travelling public as the closure will be managed using temporary traffic control.

Rock scaling will be conducted the week of February 14, 2022 through the use of Procurement Policy # 10 – Emergency Procurements. It is expected that rock scaling will likely require a full closure of the Sydenham Road escarpment access. Closure and detouring needs will be communicated in advance of the scaling work.

If you require further information, please contact Peter Sniulis, Acting Manager, Roadway Maintenance at extension 7646.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None