




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	May 16, 2025
SUBJECT:	Immediate Safety Closure of Stairs at York Boulevard to Waterfront Trail (ES2507) (Ward 1)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 1
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Cynthia Graham Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department 

This Communication Update is to inform the Mayor and Members of Council that the stairs located at York Boulevard, at the McQuesten High Level Bridge, that leads pedestrians from the York Boulevard multi-use path to the Waterfront Trail at the Desjardins Canal, are required to be closed.

It has been discovered through regular maintenance inspections that a retaining wall, that is part of the structure that the stairs are constructed on, has loose stones and is showing signs of failure. The steel stair structure itself is not failing, rather the wall upon which some of the stair footings are located is the concern.

It is anticipated that this will be a long-term closure, as the retaining wall needs to be more thoroughly inspected and design work completed to determine what a permanent fix might be. As this is anticipated to require significant remediation, staff predict that a capital budget ask will be included in the 2026 capital budget for consideration.

The Waterfront Trail from Princess Point to Bayfront Park will remain open during the closure and residents will be redirected to either Bayfront Park or Princess Point for access.

Staff understand that this is an important recreational link that is well used by residents, and staff will work as quickly as possible, while still ensuring all proper due diligence is considered to repair the retaining wall.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

SUBJECT: Immediate Safety Closure of Stairs at York Boulevard to Waterfront Trail (ES2507) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 2

A photo of the retaining wall failure at the York Boulevard stairs is included below.



Should you require further information, please contact Cynthia Graham, Director, Environmental Services, at 905-546-2424 extension 2337, or Cynthia.Graham@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A