

Communication Update

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
Committee Date: May 11, 2026
Subject/Report No.: Dewitt Road Closure Update (TRANS2602)
Ward(s) Affected: Ward #10
Submitted By: Vince Sferrazza
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Transportation Division
Public Works Department

Signature:



The purpose of this Communication Update is to advise Council.

Summary

This Communication Update provides Council with an update on the Dewitt Road Closure, due to rockfall debris.

Background

Following a rockfall at Dewitt Hill on the evening of May 10, 2026, the City, in collaboration with Hamilton Police and community safety partners, made the decision collaboratively to close Dewitt Road while the area is assessed and secured.

Hamilton Police and City Transportation staff attended the site promptly following reports of the rockfall. There were no reported injuries or fatalities, no damage to vehicles and minimal roadway impact as the existing concrete barriers prevented significant effects on the right of way.

Details

Given the immediate proximity of the rockfall to the railway corridor, Canadian Pacific Railway has been notified. Minor debris cleanup within the rail right of way has already been completed

in coordination with the Railway Authority, and any additional remediation, stabilization, or repair work required within or adjacent to the corridor will continue to be completed in collaboration with CP Rail.

The City's third-party engineering consultant inspected the site Monday afternoon to assess the escarpment face and provide recommendations on the stability of the rockface, whether additional stabilization work is required, whether current safety barriers remain sufficient in the short term and if additional protective measures should be considered before the road reopens.

Next Steps

Dewitt Road will remain closed for the remainder of the week as the required interim remedial rockface measures have been completed, and the fallen rock debris has been removed. Timing to reopen the road will be predicated on the measures and actions needed to be taken to ensure it is safe to travel on Dewitt Road.

The City will continue working closely with all relevant agencies and technical experts to ensure public safety and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Motorists are encouraged to use alternate escarpment access routes while Dewitt Road remains closed. Delays should be expected in the area until the roadway can be safely reopened.

For questions and inquiries regarding the Dewitt Road Closure, please contact Vince Sferrazza at vince.sferrazza@hamilton.ca