

Communication Update

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
Committee Date: October 23, 2026
Subject/Report No.: Dewitt Road Closure Update (TRANS2602(c))
Ward(s) Affected: Ward 10
Submitted By: Vince Sferrazza
Director, Transportation
Transportation Division
Public Works Department

Signature:



Submitted By: Dipankar Sharma
Acting Director, Engineering
Engineering Services Division
Public Works Department

Signature:



The purpose of this Communication Update is to provide Council with a further update to the Dewitt Road and Ridge Road closures.

Summary

This Communication Update provides Council with an update on the status of the Dewitt Road and Ridge Road closures, due to rockfall debris, culvert damage and stabilization issues.

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

The City of Hamilton has entered into a contract with Rankin Construction Inc. to complete infrastructure repairs. Construction is anticipated to begin Monday, October 26, 2026, and be substantially completed late December 2026, weather permitting.

The construction work involves culvert replacement, gabion retaining wall, steel beam guiderail, asphalt paving, and escarpment stabilization work. Works on Ridge Road and Dewitt Road will occur concurrently where possible. Once the work is complete in its entirety the road will be reopened to traffic. The work is currently expected to take approximately eight (8) weeks weather permitting.

Dewitt Road will remain fully closed in each direction throughout the construction period. and Ridge Road will also be fully closed in each direction between Third Road East and Tapleytown Road. Local and Emergency access to addresses between 488-588 Ridge Road will be accessible from 3rd Road East (West side of closure). During construction, through traffic will be detoured via Green Mountain Road East. Access for essential services, including waste collection, will also be coordinated.

During this time, area residents may experience some inconveniences such as noise, dust, and restricted traffic movement. Every effort will be made to do the work in a timely manner and to keep any inconvenience to a minimum.

For the duration of the project, the City of Hamilton on-site inspector will be made available to explain the sequence of work and answer any construction related questions for area residents. Furthermore, a 24-hour emergency hotline at (905) 577-4205, will be created.

Next Steps

Given the sequential nature of the work and reasonable contingencies, overall construction completion is tentatively anticipated for December 18.

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

For questions and inquiries, please contact Vince Sferrazza at Vince.Sferrazza@hamilton.ca and Dipankar Sharma at Dipankar.sharma@hamilton.ca.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

N/A