

2021 04 08 Claireville North Trail correspondence between Lisa Stokes and TRCA Staff

**From:** Lisa Stokes

**Sent:** April 8, 2021 8:20 PM

**To:** Adam Dembe

**Subject:** Re: Claireville North Multi-use Trail Project Feedback

Adam, thank you for very for you detailed and thoughtful reply. You have shared lots of great news about upcoming plans. I would appreciate knowing about any opportunities in the ongoing consultation with stakeholders to influence the decision on surface type.

Lisa

---

On Apr 8, 2021, at 14:47, Adam Dembe wrote:

Hi Lisa,

Thank-you very much for your email regarding the Claireville North Multi-use Trail Project. I am pleased to hear positive feedback regarding the webinar as well as the overall trail project.

Initial plans for the multi-use trail identified in the [2011 Management Plan Update](#) for Claireville Conservation Area indicated limestone fines (screenings) as the preferred surface type. Subsequently, TRCA proceeded to plan for this type of trail through the permitting and approvals process and budgeted accordingly. With this being said and to your point, the purpose of the trail has changed since that time to include active-transportation. As we are still in the midst of planning for final trail surfacing (currently slated to take place Summer 2022), we have some time to further consider final surface types through ongoing consultation with stakeholders. Your feedback regarding trail surfacing is important as it provides us with additional rationale to further investigate paving as a potential option.

Here are answers to your remaining questions:

- Does this project include the proposed river crossing and trail south of the 407? If not, when will that work be done
  - The scope of work for the Claireville North Multi-use Trail Project does not include the proposed river crossing and trail south of the 407. The area you are referring to here and in the below question will be grouped together under one larger project titled “Claireville South Multi-use Trail Project”. I will be the Project Manager leading the development of that particular section of trail between the parking area at Queen Street to the West Humber Trail in Toronto. Initial planning work has already commenced, with implementation tentatively scheduled for 2022-2023.
- Will the main trail along the old McVean road allowance to Gorewood be improved? Currently the low points flood and remain wet for significant periods. Also, there is very large gravel used in places that make it difficult if not impossible for wheelchair users, cyclists, people with strollers, and pedestrians with mobility issues to use.

- Thank-you for providing this input. We are aware of the existing issues relating to access to Gorewood Drive, accessibility, and flooding etc. The scope of work for the Claireville South Multi-use Trail Project will resolve those issues through a detailed planning exercise to ensure the new trail provides safe passage for all user groups.

We greatly appreciate you sharing your concerns and your participation in the webinar. Periodic updates to both the Claireville North and South Multi-use Trail Projects will be posted to the Claireville Conservation [webpage](#). If you have any further questions, please reach out to me using the contact information listed below and I will do my best to address your communications in a timely manner.

Once again, thank you for bringing these concerns to our attention.

Kind Regards,

Adam

---

**From:** Lisa Stokes

**Sent:** 2021/03/26 3:34 PM

**To:** Adam Dembe

**Subject:** Claireville North Multi-use Trail Project Feedback

Good afternoon, thank you for an informative information session on the Claireville North Multi-use Trail Project. It is great to see new trails in our community with good neighbourhood connections, and a trail that continues under a major obstacle like Queen Street. Major roads often disrupt the usefulness of linear trails, but will not do so in this case.

This trail was presented as an **Active Transportation project**. Active transportation is using your own power to get from one place to another giving people an opportunity to be physically active on a regular basis. It was also presented as an **Accessible project**.

Unfortunately, the trail surface design is primarily limestone screenings, with asphalt on inclines. This means that the trail cannot be maintained in the winter, will be messy in wet weather conditions, and will be subject to erosion. Wheelchair users, cyclists, people with strollers, and pedestrians with mobility issues, will not be able to use this trail for a significant portion of the year.

Imagine building a road for motor vehicles that could not receive winter maintenance. No one would suggest that that would be appropriate in Brampton in the twenty-first century. Why is it considered appropriate for Active Transportation? People who use Active Transportation need to be able to travel safely throughout the year, just as those who use motor vehicles do.

**My request is that the entire trail surface be asphalt.** Failing that, this should be presented as a recreational trail, accessible to wheelchair users, cyclists, people with strollers, and pedestrians with mobility issues in only three seasons of the year.

I also have questions:

Does this project include the proposed river crossing and trail south of the 407? If not, when will that work be done?

Will the main trail along the old McVean road allowance to Gorewood be improved? Currently the low points flood and remain wet for significant periods. Also, there is very large gravel used in places that make it difficult if not impossible for wheelchair users, cyclists, people with strollers, and pedestrians with mobility issues to use.

Without this additional work there will be large gaps in the corridor which make it challenging/impossible to reach the Humber Trail without using busy roads.

Thank you.

Lisa Stokes