



Charles & Benton Parking Garage Construction update as of May 11, 2009

Construction work at the site of the new Charles and Benton Street parking garage continues.

Concrete and asphalt was stripped from the site in mid-February and that allowed the City to get a better understanding of soil conditions beyond what the initial test bore holes had indicated. City staff was aware that the soil on the site contained road salt and some organic material was also found, however there is no contamination of the site. Currently, the City's contractor, Melloul Blamey, is finalizing a location that will accept the removed soil as fill.

With the asphalt out of the way, a redesign and relocation of sewers, watermains and hydro ducts on the site was begun. The sewers were moved recently and Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro is currently relocating the hydro duct on Siegner's Lane. A new fire hydrant has been installed as part of the Speakers' Corner redesign which will allow the removal of the hydrant in Hall's Lane.

The next phase of work on the parking garage will be the installation of shoring for the foundation walls. Considerable redesign of the foundation and shoring details have been undertaken to address some regional concerns since the garage is being constructed up to the property lines.

It is anticipated that the construction of the garage will be completed in spring 2010.

The garage will support growing parking demands in the downtown, including the new provincial courthouse that is expected to start being constructed in Kitchener in 2010.

Downtown visitors can find alternative parking during construction and keep up-to-date with construction news on the City's website at www.kitchener.ca/charlesbenton

For more information:

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