



Partners in Powerful Communities

# Welcome to our Community Open House

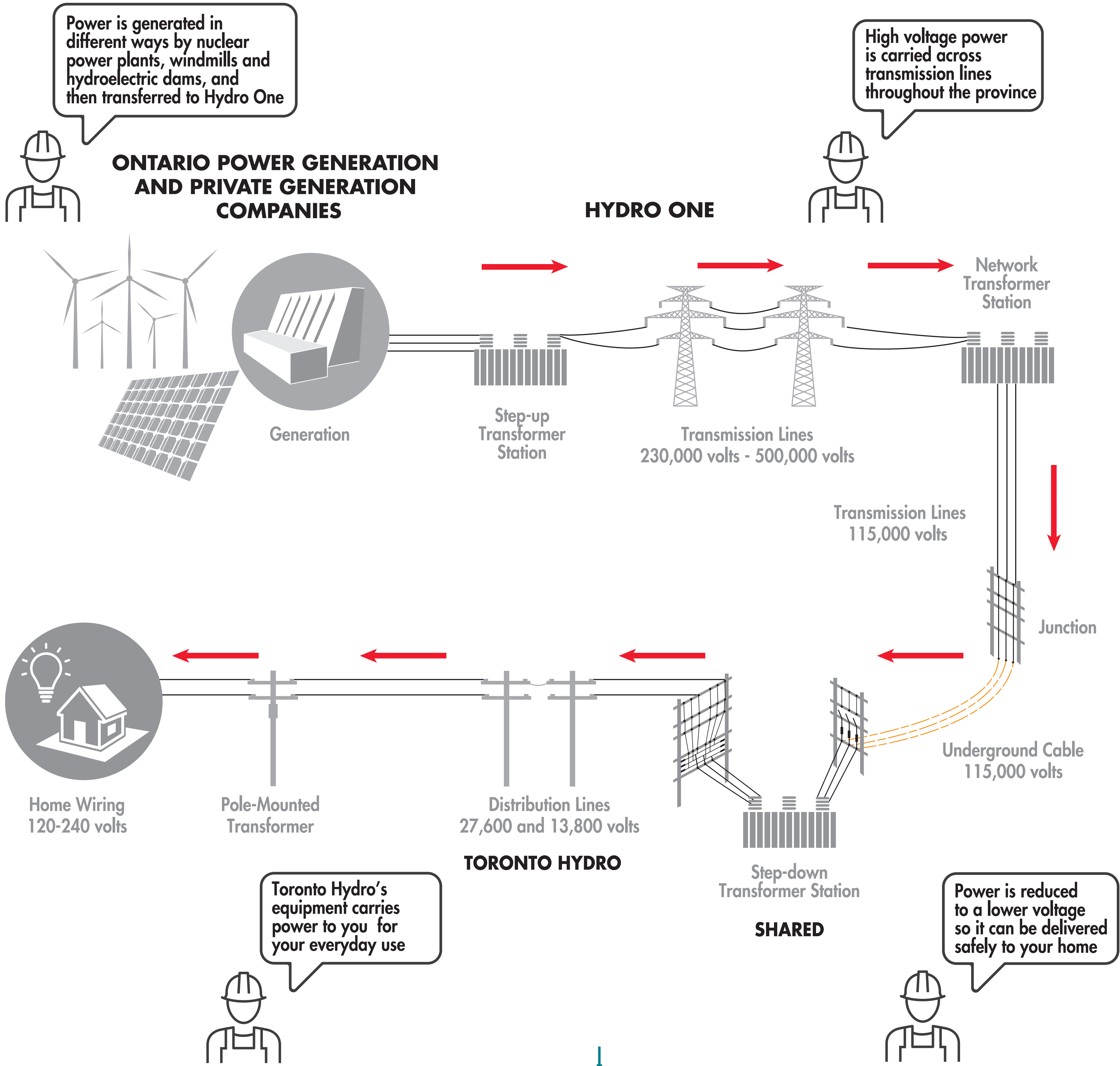
## Power Downtown Toronto Underground Cable Replacement Project



### Meet our team and learn more about:

- Project Need and Overview
- Alternative Routes and Selection Process
- Class Environmental Assessment Process
- Key Milestones and Next Steps

# Hydro One's Role in Your Community



Partners in Powerful Communities



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# Project Need and Overview

- Hydro One is making important upgrades to a critical underground transmission cable that serves Toronto's downtown core and was installed in the 1950s.
- The cable which runs through the heart of the city is approaching its end of life and must be replaced.
- In Spring 2018, our team began the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and we are continuing to evaluate several alternative routes and two construction methods.

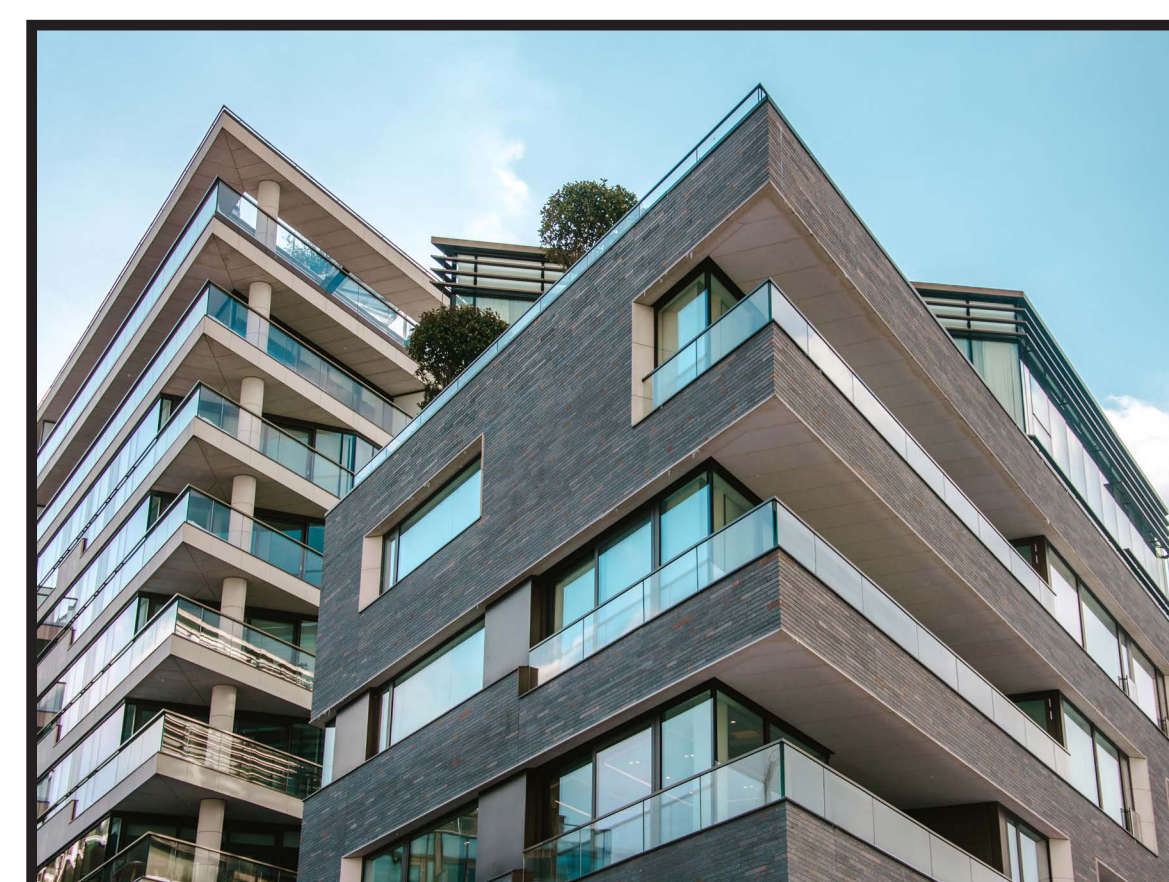
This work will help continue to provide reliable power to the city's crucial institutions such as:



Hospitals



Entertainment



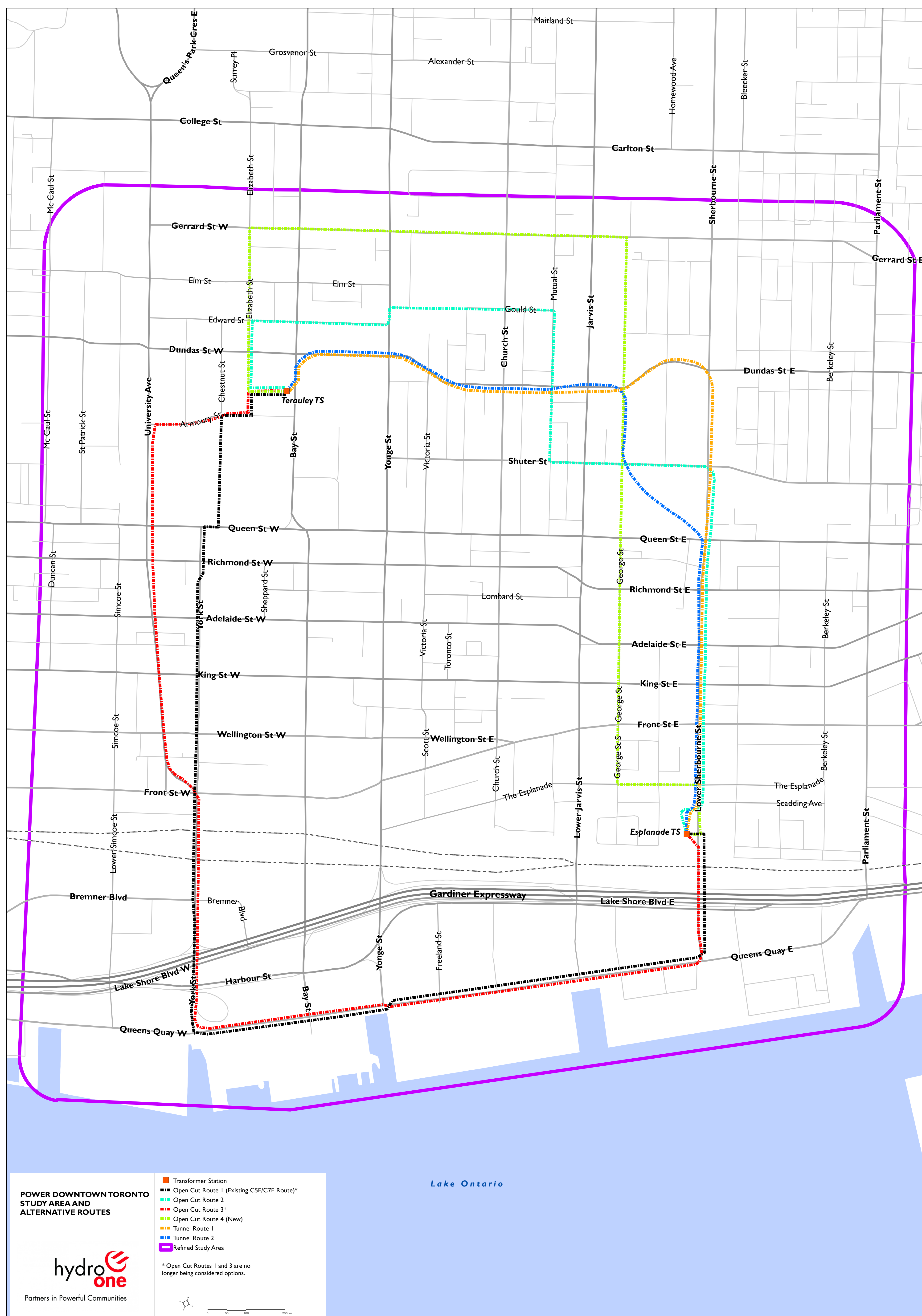
Commercial/  
Residential Buildings



Universities/Colleges



# Study Area & Alternative Routes



# Overview to Date

## Initial Alternative Routes at Start of EA Process

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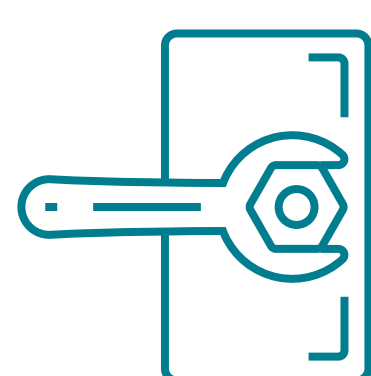
Routes

2

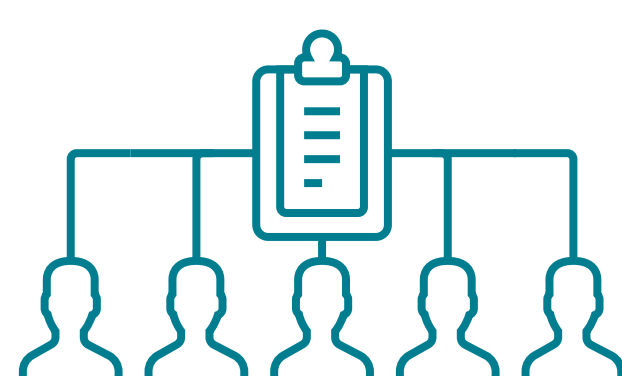
Construction  
Methods

## Data Collection and Stakeholder Engagement to Date

Since Spring 2018 we've been collecting data and have held several consultation events reaching a wide range of audiences through



Hosting our **first** Municipal Agency Workshop Series



Meeting with 3 local councillors, 6 Business Improvement Area's and Neighbourhood Associations and multiple city partners and utilities



Launching our online engagement tool



Distributing more than **20,000** flyers



Reviewing existing underground infrastructure and environmental features

## What We've Heard

We've received a lot of helpful feedback on technical and construction constraints within our study area including:

Roadway Construction Restriction Zone

Relief Line South

Enwave Tunnels (existing and planned)

North West PATH Project

Gardiner Expressway Rehabilitation

Ryerson University's planned revitalization on Gould Street

Other planned infrastructure projects

## Refined Study Area and Routes

Based on the above information we will no longer be exploring Open Cut Routes 1 and 3

We have recently identified an additional route to be considered, through collaboration with the City of Toronto (Open Cut Route 4).

## Moving Forward We Are Evaluating

4

Routes

2

Construction  
Methods

# Underground Tunnel Method

- Tunnel Route 1 and Tunnel Route 2 would involve creating a tunnel approximately 25 meters (82 feet) below the surface to house the new underground cable.
- To ensure access and proper ventilation of the cable, the installation and location of various types of access shafts and buildings at surface level would be required.
- The location of these shafts and buildings will be considered through the Class EA.



Example of access shaft



Example of underground tunnel with cables



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# Open Cut Method

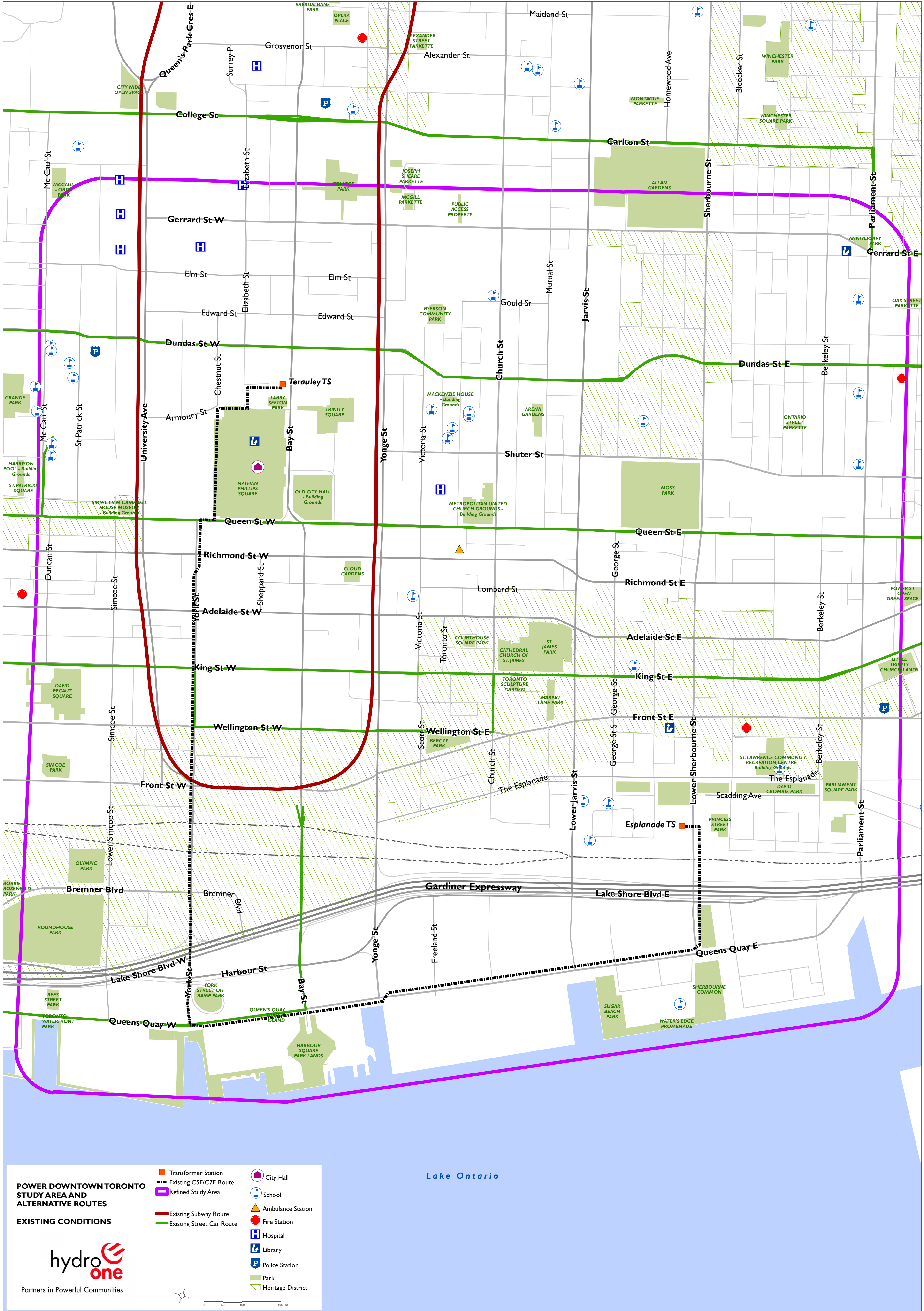
- Open Cut Route 2 and Open Cut Route 4 would involve the excavation of roads and sidewalks to install cable ducts beneath the surface to house the new cable.
- Excavation would be completed in rolling sections.
- For this method we are considering factors such as:
  - » Possible lane and sidewalk closures
  - » Potential temporary traffic/transit diversions
  - » Road cut permits required
  - » Material and equipment storage area required
  - » Potential disruption to access/entrances for local businesses



Example of cable ducts



# Existing Conditions of Study Area





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# Route Evaluation Criteria

To help identify a preferred route and construction method, the following factors will be taken into consideration and evaluated:

- Traffic congestion
- Parks
- Recreational uses (e.g. bike routes)
- Local businesses, residential property owners and community groups
- Existing and planned projects
- Cultural heritage resources
- Construction complexity
- Cost

Data collected and feedback received on these factors will help us determine a preferred route.



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# Class Environmental Assessment Process

- The project is subject to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (Hydro One, 2016) process, in accordance with the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*.
- This process ensures that transmission projects that have a predictable range of effects are planned and carried out in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- The Class EA process includes critical components such as:
  - » Consultation with municipal, provincial and federal government officials; government agencies; First Nation and Métis communities; potentially affected and interested persons, affected businesses and interest groups
  - » Collection of environmental inventory
  - » Identification and evaluation of alternative methods
  - » Identification of project effects and mitigation measures



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# Class Environmental Assessment Process

- As part of the Class EA process, a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be made available for public review and comment.
- Hydro One will make best efforts to resolve any concerns raised during the public review and comment period before filing the final ESR with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).
- If a concern cannot be resolved, the concerned party may submit a written request (called a “Part II Order Request”) to the MECP during the public review period to request for a higher level of assessment, known as an Individual Environmental Assessment.



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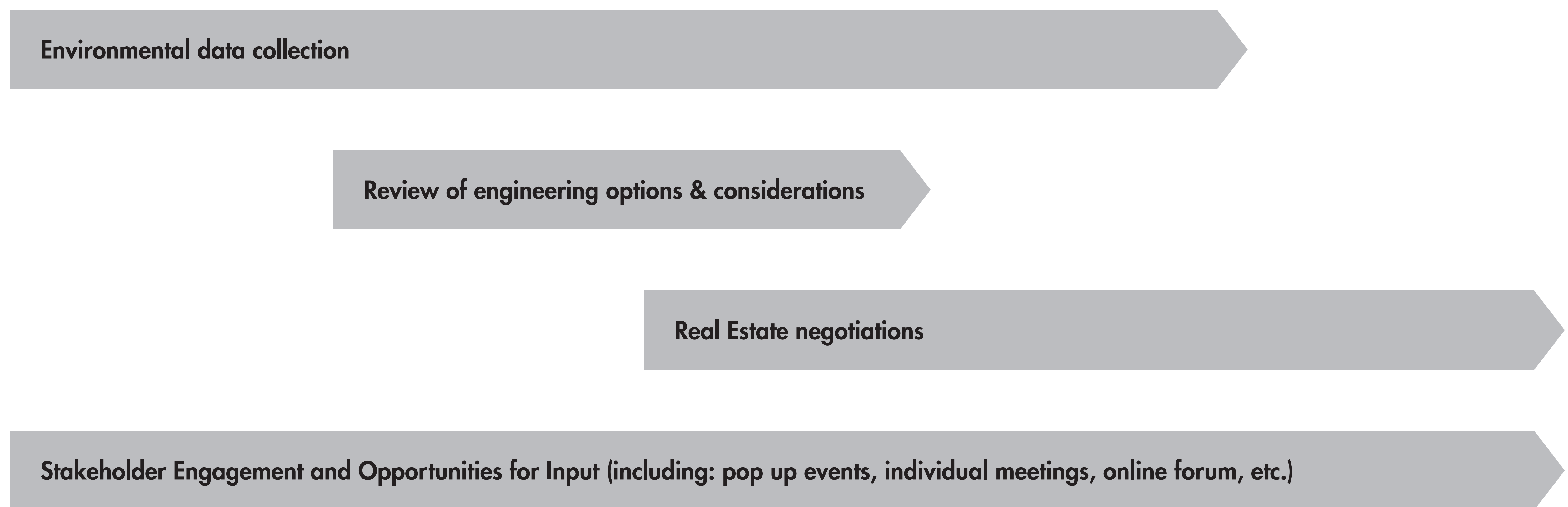
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# Ontario Energy Board Approval Requirements

- The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) regulates the electricity market in Ontario and approves the rates that companies can charge customers for electricity.
- In addition to the Class EA process, the OEB must also approve the Power Downtown Toronto project under the Section 92 Leave to Construct Approval of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*.
- Further information from the OEB on this project will be made available in local papers and at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca).



# Project Milestones



- Application of OEB Section 92: Leave to Construct permit is also required once a preferred route is selected.
- Pending project approvals construction could begin in May 2021, with anticipated in-service date of December 2024.



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# Provide Your Feedback

Questions to consider:

- Do you commute along any of the alternative routes?
- What times do you travel through this area?
- What causes you frustration during construction?
- Do you know of any proposed developments/projects in this area we should be aware of?
- Are there any individuals or organizations you think we should be in touch with?

Please post your comments below:

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# Thank You For Coming to Our Community Open House

## We're listening:

Your feedback plays an important role in our evaluation process and we want to hear from you. You can provide us with your feedback by:

- » Signing up for our online community feedback forum ([TalkPowerDowntownTO.ca](http://TalkPowerDowntownTO.ca)) on the iPads available
- » Filling out a comment form
- » Attending upcoming community open houses

If you have any questions about the project please contact Hydro One Community Relations:

- » Tel: 416 - 345 - 6799
- » Email: [Community.Relations@HydroOne.com](mailto:Community.Relations@HydroOne.com)
- » Website: [www.HydroOne.com/PowerDowntownToronto](http://www.HydroOne.com/PowerDowntownToronto)

