



ION Update October 2014

ION LRT construction



Work is currently underway in UpTown Waterloo on Caroline, between Allen and William. Detour signs will direct drivers, cyclists and pedestrians safely around the construction area, while way-finding signage will guide customers to businesses and other UpTown Waterloo destinations during this time. Local access to businesses and residences will be maintained, along with access for police, fire and EMS.

Work is also underway at the new ION Operations, Maintenance and Storage Facility (518 Dutton Drive in Waterloo) and along the CN railway tracks, from Northfield to King South, in Waterloo.

Work along the CN railway tracks is not expected to impact traffic. On Dutton Drive, local access to businesses will be maintained throughout construction.

In Kitchener, construction on Borden, between Charles and the CN railway tracks is expected to begin on mid-October. During construction, access to businesses and residences will be maintained, along with access for police, fire and EMS.



Work is underway in UpTown Waterloo, on Caroline, between Allen and William.

• Project Website: regionofwaterloo.ca/rapidtransit

• Phone: **519-575-4400**

• TTY: **519-575-4608**

• Email: rtinfo@regionofwaterloo.ca

•  [facebook.com/rideION](https://www.facebook.com/rideION)

•  [@rideIONrt](https://twitter.com/rideIONrt)

• Construction website: www.rideION.ca

• Questions about construction?

• Phone: **1-844-625-1010**

• Email: connect@rideion.ca



For all the latest construction information, visit:
www.ridelION.ca.

You can also sign-up to receive regular updates at: <http://www.rideion.ca/sign-up-for-updates.html>

ION aBRT update

ION adapted bus rapid transit (aBRT) construction continues along Hespeler Road and at the Ainslie Street transit terminal in Cambridge ahead of the ION service launch in early-2015.

At least one lane of through traffic will be maintained in each direction at all times on Hespeler throughout construction. Local and Emergency Services as well as Grand River Transit (GRT) service will also be maintained.

Access to businesses and residences along the corridor will be maintained to the greatest extent possible, though short-term disruptions may occur.

aBRT is the first step towards bringing LRT to Cambridge.

Construction website



A new website dedicated to ION construction is now available for residents and visitors. The site features an interactive ION route map, information on ION stops as well as an opportunity to sign-up for regular construction updates.

A link to Grand River Transit (GRT) is also included in construction updates for areas where construction may affect GRT service.

The website will include the most up-to-date information on all aspects of ION construction.

Visit the website at www.ridelION.ca

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ION engagement



Community engagement and input from residents has always played an important role in bringing ION to Waterloo Region.

In the first nine months of 2014, ION staff had personal interactions with nearly 9,000 residents through community engagement events and activities. During this time, staff attended or presented at numerous community events, including neighbourhood association meetings, one-on-one discussions with stakeholders and meetings with resident's groups.

If you would like an ION staff member to meet with your group or organization, please contact Kimberly Moser, Manager of Community Relations at kmoser@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519-575-4757, ext. 3461.

Talking ION video series



Talking ION, a video series featuring community members discussing various aspects of the ION service in Waterloo Region, continues with the release of a new video clip.

In this latest clip, Kitchener resident Kim McSavaney discusses rapid transit convenience.

View the video at <http://bit.ly/1DxroJj>

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ION spotlight: Benton



festivals, Benton will provide quick access. The Centre in the Square is also a short walk away.

Further transit connections are available at this stop as Benton serves as an important transfer point on the ION route with links to GRT and future iXpress services.

The area surrounding Benton presents a great potential for future development – a key priority for rapid transit in Waterloo Region.

For more information on ION stops, see this link <http://bit.ly/1m6vTAQ> or access the ION route through this interactive map <http://bit.ly/1qJqL8Y>

Located on Charles, between Queen and Benton, this stop will serve southbound passengers travelling in Downtown Kitchener.

Because of its central location, Benton will act as a key destination on the ION route, providing a convenient link for those accessing services and businesses in Downtown Kitchener. These include the nearby Duke Street Food Block, Waterloo Regional Courthouse and the Kitchener Public Library. Benton also provides further transit options to major employers such as the Region of Waterloo and Manulife.

For passengers accessing Downtown Kitchener's numerous annual events and

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About ION

ION, the Region of Waterloo's rapid transit service, which was approved by Council in June 2011, is a visionary plan that will help shape the community for the future by bringing LRT to the region in two stages.

Stage 1, set to open in 2017, includes a 19-kilometre LRT route from the Conestoga Mall transit terminal in Waterloo to the Fairview Park Mall transit terminal in Kitchener, with stops at 16 destinations including the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier, UpTown Waterloo, Grand River Hospital, King/Victoria transit hub and Downtown Kitchener.

Stage 1 also features a 17-kilometre route of aBRT from the Ainslie Street transit terminal in Cambridge to the Fairview Park Mall transit terminal in Kitchener. aBRT service will begin in the spring of 2015.

Stage 2 ION will see the Region convert the aBRT line to LRT, creating a seamless 37-kilometre ION route with 23 stops between Cambridge and Waterloo.

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