

Public Information Meeting

Hunter Russell Trail

Pedestrian Bridge Replacement and Trail Rehabilitation

Township of Springwater

July 15, 2026



Welcome!

Please Sign In

We invite you to take your time exploring the information display boards and engineering drawings.

Our friendly Project Team members are here and ready to answer any questions you may have.

Before you leave, please fill out a comment sheet or feel free to take one home to complete at your convenience.

Land Acknowledgement

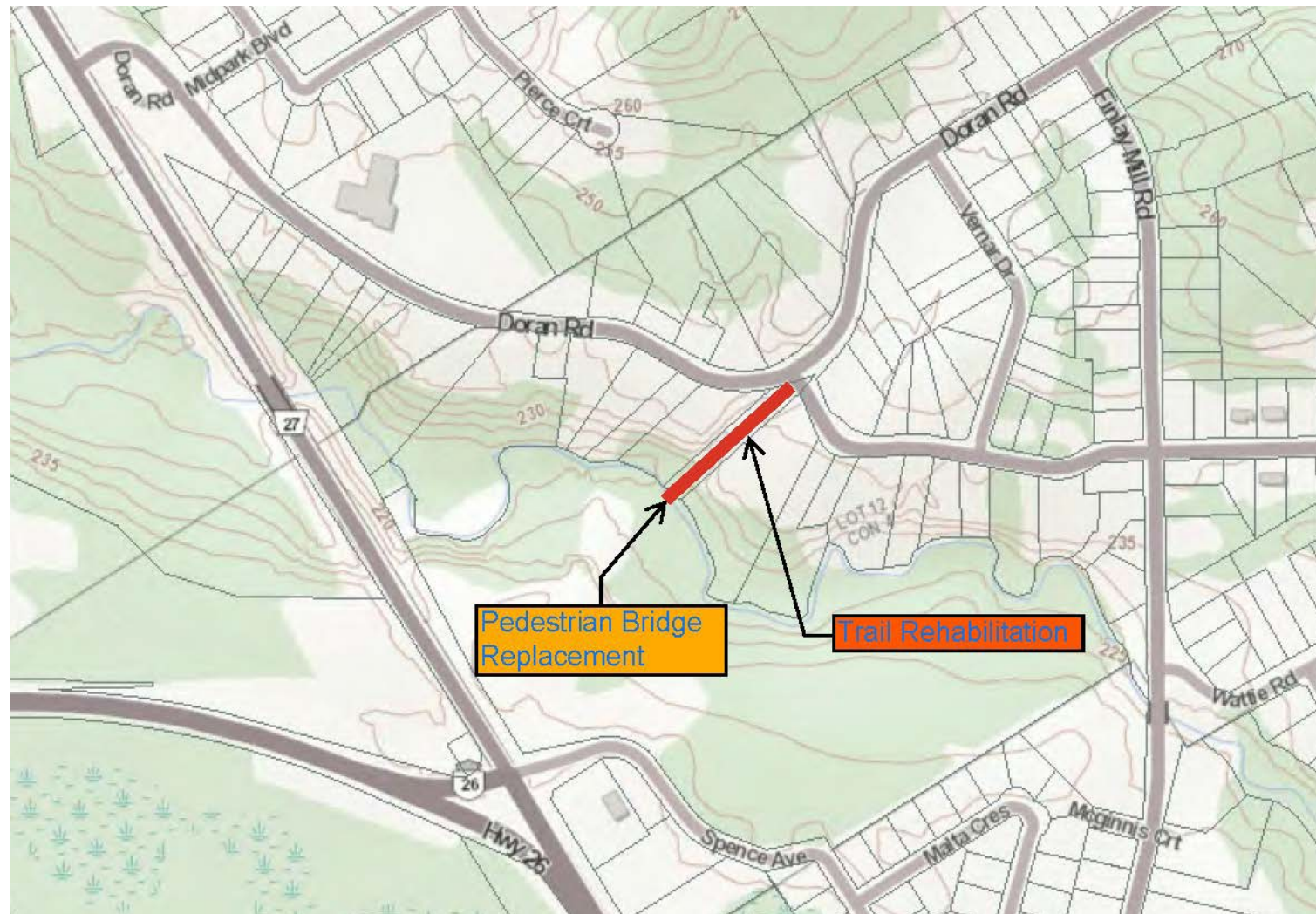
The Township of Springwater acknowledges that the land on which we gather today is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek (a-nish-i-na-beck) Nation, which includes the Ojibwe (o-jib-way), Odawa (o-dah-wa), and Pottawatomi (pot-a-wa-tom-ee) Nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy, the Ouendat (WENdatt) and the Haudenosaunee (ho-deen-nohSHAW-nee).

The Township of Springwater is dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and is committed to coming together to learn, heal and create future prosperity, respect and understanding in our community.

The purpose of today's Public Information Meeting is to:

- ❖ Advise the public of the project purpose and need
- ❖ Present design concepts for the bridge and trail
- ❖ Provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions
- ❖ Gather input from the public
- ❖ Discuss any concerns and/or opportunities

Project Location



Project Purpose and Need

The Hunter Russell Trail project is required to restore safe, reliable, and accessible pedestrian connectivity by replacing the aging pedestrian bridge and rehabilitating the damaged trail infrastructure.

The existing steel pedestrian bridge has reached the end of its service life, with structural deficiencies and material deterioration that no longer meet municipal safety standards. Replacement is necessary to eliminate safety risks to trail users and address ongoing maintenance concerns associated with the deteriorated structure.

The trail segment between the pedestrian bridge and the Doran Road/Belmont Crescent intersection sustained severe erosion during a high-intensity rain event in 2024, resulting in loss of trail surface, embankment instability, and unsafe drainage conditions. These hazards required closure of the trail connection to protect public safety.

Rehabilitation of this section is essential to re-establish a stable and accessible trail, improve resilience to future storm events, and mitigate ongoing erosion risks.

Together, the bridge replacement and trail rehabilitation works are needed to ensure public safety, maintain essential community access, and support the long-term sustainability of the Hunter Russell Trail system.

Existing Trail Conditions



Existing Bridge Conditions



Pedestrian Bridge Design Solutions

Both rehabilitation and replacement options were evaluated for the Hunter Russell Trail pedestrian bridge.

Rehabilitation was dismissed due to the bridge's advanced deterioration, structural deficiencies, and limited remaining service life, which together presented ongoing public safety risks and high future maintenance demands.

Replacement alternatives were assessed with consideration for site topography, trail environment, access constraints, cost, durability, life-cycle performance, and active transportation objectives.

Several concepts were reviewed, and based on technical, economic, and operational factors, full replacement was identified as the preferred strategy.

The selected solution, a prefabricated steel truss bridge supported on shallow spread footings set back from the Willow Creek banks, provides a durable, low-maintenance structure with improved safety, reliable long-term performance, and minimal environmental disturbance.

Pedestrian Bridge Design Concept



Trail Design Solutions

Several alternatives were evaluated to reinstate the eroded trail segment between the pedestrian bridge and the Doran Road/Belmont Crescent intersection. Options included:

- reinstatement of the existing trail surface with a wood staircase system
- reconstruction using a precast concrete block staircase system in steep sections with geoweb reinforcement and limestone screenings on gentler slopes
- installation of an elevated timber boardwalk system supported on helical piles.

The reinstatement options involving wood or precast concrete stair systems were found to require extensive grading, construction of a new drainage system capable of managing high-intensity storm events, and removal of a significant number of mature trees. These impacts would result in substantial disturbance to the existing landscape, increased construction complexity, and higher overall costs, making these options unfavourable.

The elevated timber boardwalk supported on helical piles was identified as the preferred solution due to its environmental, constructability, and long-term performance advantages. Key benefits include minimal disturbance to existing vegetation and trees, avoidance of major grading and ditch construction, preservation of natural drainage patterns, reduced long-term maintenance requirements, and improved user safety and accessibility.

Trail Design Concept



Preliminary Opinion of Construction Costs

Preliminary cost forecasting for the preferred design solution, which includes the replacement of the existing pedestrian bridge with a prefabricated modular steel truss structure and the installation of an elevated timber boardwalk system supported on helical piles, indicates a total estimated project cost of \$1,453,200.

This estimate encompasses bridge fabrication and installation, foundation construction, boardwalk supply and installation, site preparation, erosion and sediment control, and reinstatement of disturbed areas.

The combined cost reflects current market pricing for prefabricated modular bridge systems and timber boardwalk components, anticipated construction access constraints within the trail corridor, and the environmental protection measures required adjacent to Willow Creek.

These preliminary figures provide a reliable basis for project budgeting and advancement into detailed design and procurement.

Next Steps

- ✓ Review and respond to public comments.
- ✓ Finalize the design.
- ✓ Secure permits and approvals.
- ✓ Release construction tender.
- ✓ Review received bids
- ✓ Present contract award recommendation to Council.
- ✓ Commence construction subject to Council approval.

Thank You For Attending!

Your comments are importation to us. Please complete a comment sheet or take one home with you before leaving. Comment sheets may be placed in the comment box or returned to the below team members by email or mail.

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Please provide your comments by **July 31, 2026**

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements. Except for personal information, all comments received will become a part of the public record.