

# Regional Watershed Alliance Update

September 20, 2023

**The**   
**Meadoway**  
COMMUNITY POWERED GREEN SPACES

Lisa Turnbull, Associate Director –  
Professional Services

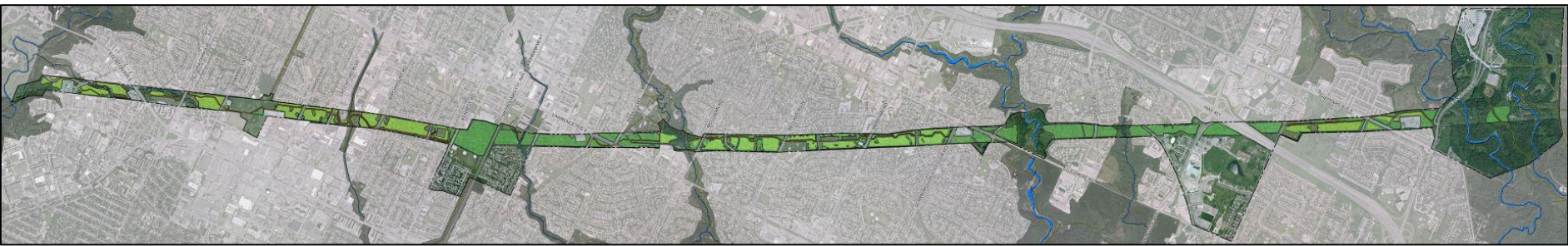
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# Project Objective

To revitalize a 200+ hectares underutilized hydro corridor to increase biodiversity, connect local communities to nature, and develop a successful pilot program that can be replicated across the country.



# The Meadoway: Phase 1

On April 11, 2018 the Weston Family Foundation announced a pledge up to \$25 million, with a firm commitment of \$10 million available immediately.

Phase 1 of the project was delivered from 2018 – 2022 with an additional \$1.348M added to the grant to total \$11.348M.



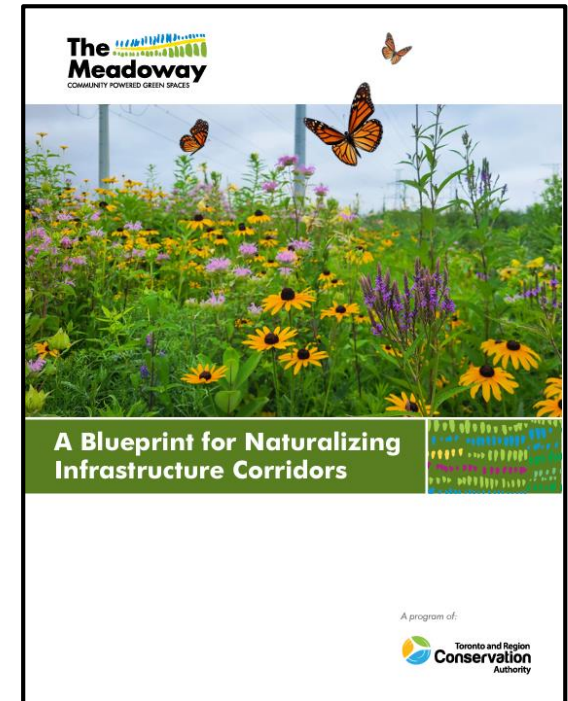


# Phase 1: Snapshot of Key Deliverables

- Completion of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for the Multi-use Trail
- Construction of 2km of trail, 1 bridge and 1 boardwalk
- 83 ha of meadow habitat established and under various stages of adaptive management
- Over 10,000 people engaged through education and outreach programs

# Successes

- Highland Creek trail connection opening in October 2023
- The [Visualization Toolkit](#) has **won several awards locally and nationally**
- Meadow restoration has significantly **diversified insect and bird species**
- TRCA has established itself as **an expert in meadow revitalization** and has recently released a digital publication [“A Blueprint for Greening Infrastructure Corridors”](#)
- Valuable tool for teaching about **biodiversity**
- Numerous **college and university research projects** undertaken in the corridor
- **Model for corridor revitalization** for other regions





# Phase 2

## 3 Year Budget – Weston Family Foundation

ITEM	2023	2024	2025	Total
Project Management and Operations	\$1M	\$0.75M	\$0.75M	\$2.5M
Meadow Restoration	\$1.513M	\$1M	\$0.8M	\$3.313M
Education	\$0.12M	\$0.12M	\$0.12M	\$0.36M
Outreach	\$0.15M	\$0.15M	\$0.15M	\$0.45M
Active Transportation	\$3M	\$2M	\$1M	\$6M
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$5.783M</b>	<b>\$4.02M</b>	<b>\$2.82M</b>	<b>\$12.623M</b>
<b>Weston Family Foundation Request</b>	<b>\$2.532M</b>	<b>\$2M</b>	<b>\$1.8M</b>	<b>\$6.332M</b>
TOTAL Other Sources*	\$3.251M	\$2.02M	\$1.02M	\$6.291M

\*Other sources:

- \$5M Natural Infrastructure Fund, through the City of Toronto
- \$1M Parks Canada (RNUP)
- \$231k Nature Based Climate Solutions grant (in 2023)
- \$60k City of Toronto Capital budget support (20k annually)



# High Level Deliverables

	Phase 1		Phase 2			Phase 3	TOTAL
	Existing /Prior to 2022	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+	
Meadow Habitat (ha)	66	17	22	-	-	-	105
Trail (km)	10	2	1	1	0.5	1.5	16
Bridges (#)	1	1	0	1	0	2	5
Education & Outreach (# ppl)	9,167	1,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	N/A	25,167

# Filling in the Remaining Meadow Restoration Gaps

- Section 5 currently in site preparation and seeding: 17 ha
- Remaining meadow restoration gaps in Section 3 and 6 to be seeded with native meadow species by fall 2023: 22 ha
- Total restoration will be 105 ha in the corridor by end of 2023 with adaptive management in 2024+



13 ha of restoration



17 ha of restoration



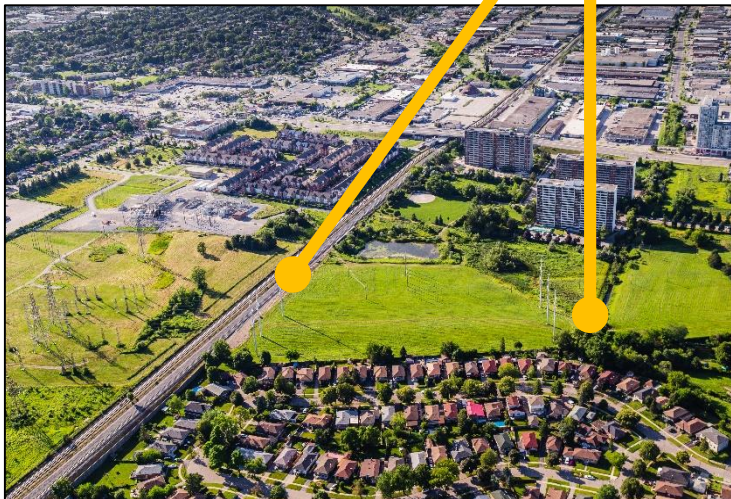
9 ha of restoration





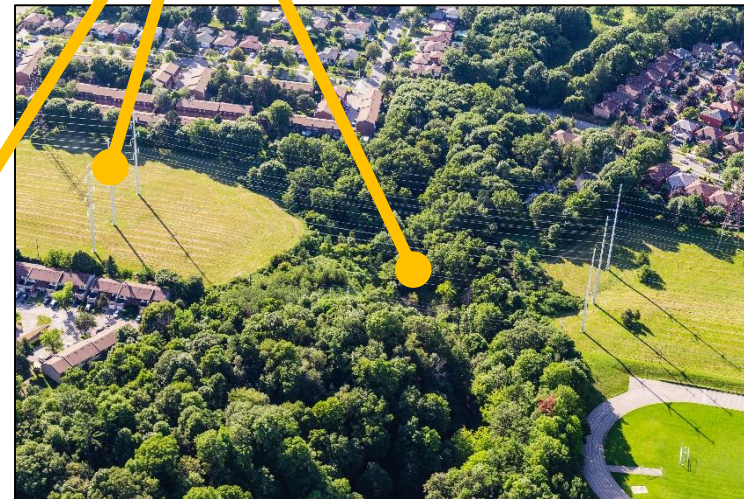
# Filling in the Remaining Trail Gaps

- Phase 1: Section 5 currently under construction, with completion in Fall of 2022: 2km of trail, 1 bridge and 1 boardwalk
- Phase 2: Section 3 and 6 to be filled through a phased approach based on complexity (2 bridge structures), funding, approvals, and stakeholder considerations



1.5km trail in Phase 2; including 1 bridge structure

1km trail in Phase 2



# How Can You Get Involved?

- Join an event: [Calendar - The Meadoway](#)
- Do you have any experience with corporate sponsorship programs?
- Promote the meadow restoration Manual with your networks: [“A Blueprint for Greening Infrastructure Corridors”](#)



