



# 2022 COMMUNITY BENEFITS PROPOSALS

## BACKGROUND

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project's Community Benefits Plan includes the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy, representing a \$20 million (CDN) investment in the local communities of Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. All \$20 million of Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy funding will be invested in the host communities before the end of the Design-Build period (2024), with approximately \$5.4 million (\$2.9 million in Canada and \$2.4 million in the US) still to be assigned to support the expansion of existing initiatives and the addition of new initiatives to the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy. A portion of the unallocated funding will be assigned in 2022 with the remaining funds assigned and released in future years, before the end of the Design-Build period.

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project team met with potential delivery partners in Windsor and Detroit to discuss new prospective projects for investment. These proposals stem from ideas not included in the 2019 launch of the Community Benefits Plan or those that have been submitted to the project team since then. Potential delivery partners were invited to provide proposals for new initiatives that will be considered for Community Benefits Funding in 2022. The key details of the proposed projects have been summarized below- please note: organization names and identifying details have been removed to maintain confidentiality.

## REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT

The Gordie Howe International Bridge team requests feedback from community members and the public on several proposals under consideration funding through the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy within the Community Benefits Plan. Please review the summaries of the proposed projects below. We encourage you to reflect on the proposals and note enthusiasm, concerns and/or important information the project team should consider relating to these proposals. To provide feedback on the proposals before 4:30 p.m. on Friday October 7, 2022, you can:

- email comments to [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com)
- call 1-844-322-1773 to discuss comments
- attend a Quarterly Public Meeting on Wednesday October 5, 2022, in Detroit or Thursday October 6, 2022, in Windsor to provide comments to project staff. Visit the website for meeting details.

Stakeholder, community and public feedback received through consultation will be summarized and shared with senior project leadership who will approve of the projects that will receive Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy funding in 2022.

## NEW INITIATIVES UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUNDING

Initiative Type	Target Population	Anticipated # of Participants	Timeline	Description
<b>CANADIAN INITIATIVES</b>				
Programming/ Event	Indigenous and non-Indigenous students/youth	2,000+	2023-2024	<p>Event funding to support a two-day Pow Wow event in Windsor that will engage Indigenous and non-Indigenous students from secondary schools in Windsor-Essex, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton.</p> <p>Programming funding to support March break and summer camps for Indigenous secondary-school students that focus on removing barriers and encouraging post-secondary education.</p> <p>While services are targeted to Indigenous students, participation is invited from all members in the Sandwich and west Windsor communities to attend and/or register for the camps and Pow Wow.</p>

Initiative Type	Target Population	Anticipated # of Participants	Timeline	Description
Infrastructure/ Event	Residents of and visitors to Sandwich	1,000+	2023-2024	<p>Infrastructure funding to support the restoration and relocation of an existing cultural and historical monument to a Sandwich-area park plus a commemorative plaque to mark the Francophone cultural history of the area. Event funding would support a community event to unveil these items.</p> <p>This project would provide opportunities to increase social connections, inform visitors to Sandwich of its local heritage, and increase the sense of belonging within the community.</p>
Programming	West Windsor youth (ages 12-25)	2,500	2023-2024	<p>Programming funding to support free, accessible mental health services, addictions support and education for youth in west Windsor, including the hiring of a dedicated social worker. The project includes working with community partners and area schools to meet youth "where they are at" as well as providing transportation to other mental health service centres in Windsor. Funding would also provide access to additional services such as a dietician, human kinetics graduate and yoga instructor for west Windsor youth.</p> <p>Research and data have demonstrated increased need for supports for youth living in the west Windsor region. The community would benefit from access to low-barrier services in west Windsor.</p>
Programming	Marginalized/ minority young women from west Windsor (ages 12-29)	30	2023-2024	<p>Programming funding to support programming designed specifically for young women aged 12-19 years. The program will promote healthy and supportive social relationships with other young women and mentors while engaging in activities to promote skills that lead to healthy lives.</p> <p>Youth would be supported to aspire to reach their full potential. Increased positive youth development opportunities is expected to lead to increased likelihood of healthy choices and long-term outcomes, this will support positive outcomes for the community and participants' families.</p>
Programming/ Event/ Infrastructure	West Windsor businesses and residents	30+ local businesses and 1,000+ event attendees	2023-2024	<p>Programming funding to support the development of a business marketing strategy and implementation plan for businesses in west Windsor, as well as invest in the expansion of existing community-based events and performing upgrades to neighbourhood infrastructure.</p> <p>These projects would provide west Windsor business owners support during periods of adjacent construction, help generate more economic development opportunities and draw more people to the west Windsor community.</p>

Initiative Type	Target Population	Anticipated # of Participants	Timeline	Description
<b>US INITIATIVES</b>				
Programming/ Infrastructure	Youth, young adults and families in Southwest Detroit	1,500	2023-2024	<p>Infrastructure and programming funding will support the creation of green infrastructure in Southwest Detroit including the expansion of community/urban gardening programs and creating a space for residents to learn about sustainable building practice and environmental sustainability. Funding will also support a community-based organization to integrate sustainable policies into their work.</p> <p>The program would train and develop youth and resident leaders to support sustainable community change, empower opportunities to take part in neighbourhood development and cultivate safe, green spaces in Southwest Detroit.</p>
Programming	Southwest Detroit youth (ages 5-17)	75	2023-2024	<p>Programming funding to be used for comprehensive after-school and summer programming for youth in Southwest Detroit.</p> <p>The program would provide quality, innovative and culturally appropriate programs and services, helping meet the needs of the most vulnerable youth in Southwest Detroit by supporting increased academic achievement, reduced dropout rates and pursuit of post-secondary education and careers.</p>
Programming/Infrastructure	Small business owners in Southwest Detroit and surrounding communities	Up to 100 businesses	2023-2024	<p>Programming funding to support bilingual (English/Spanish) business development programming for small business owners and entrepreneurs in Southwest Detroit. Support would include technical assistance, workshops, facilitation of networking opportunities and providing access to resources for local businesses.</p> <p>Infrastructure funding to support renovating an existing space in Southwest Detroit to serve the unique needs of small business owners.</p>
Programming	Entrepreneurs and business owners in Southwest Detroit	To be determined	2023	Modeled after the Sandwich Business Development Summit scheduled for 2023, the Southwest Detroit Business Summit will provide a half-day event for Southwest Detroit businesses and entrepreneurs to learn about ways to leverage tourism and opportunities associated with the bridge's operation for business opportunities.
Programming	Youth and families in Southwest Detroit	100	2023	<p>Funding to support a new environmental education program designed to engage students in underserved schools in Southwest Detroit in meaningful and fun, place-based outdoor activities that promote their environmental awareness and stewardship. The program will plant 30 trees on school campuses or in nearby neighbourhood parks with the help of 100 students, teachers and community volunteers.</p> <p>The project would help students to become environmentally literate through participation in meaningful outdoor learning experiences that are linked to science curriculum, resulting in increased understanding and appreciation for their role in Detroit's climate resiliency and the importance of protecting the overall health of the watershed and their urban environment.</p>

#### NEXT STEPS

The projects and organizations selected to receive Community Benefits Plan funding in 2022 will be announced publicly in late 2022/early 2023. Based on timing submitted in the proposals, the delivery partner will deliver the initiative throughout 2023 and/or 2024 and the impacts of these new investments will be communicated through regular reporting on Community Benefits Plan delivery.

