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## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT...



### Community Benefits

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project will include a Community Benefits Plan that will have a positive impact on communities in Windsor and Detroit and reflects what our stakeholders have told us is important to them. A detailed community benefits report outlining the approach, proposed initiatives and governance structure is available on [wdbridge.com](http://wdbridge.com). Here are just a few highlights:

#### 1 MANDATE

The mandate to include a Community Benefits Plan as an integral part of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project originates in the Canada-Michigan Crossing Agreement signed in 2012.

#### 2 VISION

Community Benefits Plan will provide economic opportunities in the host communities, contribute positively to workforce, development programs, deliver neighbourhood improvements and ensure clear commitments and accountability from all parties during implementation.

#### 3 DELIVERY

WDBA's private-sector partner, Bridging North America is responsible for delivering all aspects of the signed Gordie Howe International Bridge Project Agreement including a robust Community Benefits Plan. WDBA and the State of Michigan will be directly involved in the delivery of the final plan and will have stringent oversight and accountability. The final plan will be posted online as will quarterly reports.

#### 4 FRAMEWORK

It is important that the Community Benefits Plan reflects what our stakeholders have told us is important to them. Since 2015, more than 230 suggestions from Michigan and Ontario stakeholders have been received for consideration. To help ensure these community priorities are captured, WDBA has developed the I-CARE framework to support the delivery of the Community Benefits Plan.

#### 5 COMPONENTS

The Community Benefits Plan reflects community priorities heard to date and is comprised of two components: the Workforce Development and Participation Strategy and the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy.

#### 6 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Workforce Development and Participation Strategy is geared toward engaging businesses and providing employment opportunities. The strategy to be finalized and implemented will centre on workforce, training and pre-apprenticeships/apprenticeships. Consultation will help shape the delivery.

#### 7 NEIGHBOURHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE

The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy is a \$20 million community infrastructure investment that focuses on priorities identified through previous community benefit consultation with communities, businesses, First Nations and other stakeholders in Windsor, ON and Detroit, MI.

#### 8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Local Community Group composed of stakeholders representing Windsor-Essex County, the community of Delray, greater Detroit area municipalities, bridge user groups, institutions of higher education, economic development organizations and Canadian Indigenous Peoples will be formed to work as informal partners in the implementation of collaborative activities, providing formal linkages into the region and providing input into the implementation of the Community Benefits Plan.

#### 9 CONTINUED CONSULTATION

Further consultation will be undertaken with the community and relevant authorities to discuss proposed initiatives over a six-month period following Financial Close. The Final Community Benefits Plan will be presented to the public in early 2019.

