

Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA)
Public Information Meeting
Summary of Question and Answer Session

Location: Detroit
July 19, 2017, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
El Kiosko Banquet Hall
7271 Dix Street, Detroit, Michigan

## Introduction

The third Public Information Meeting in Detroit, Michigan, for the Gordie Howe International Bridge project was held on July 19, 2017, at El Kiosko Banquet Hall. This event was open to the public from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and included two presentations followed by public question and answer (Q&A) sessions. The first presentation began at 4:00 p.m. and the second followed at 6:00 p.m.

## **Discussion - Questions and Answers**

An important part of the Public Information Session was to solicit feedback and questions from the public. In the interest of time at the event, not all questions submitted during the designated Q&A session were able to be responded to at the meeting. A summary of all questions submitted during the formal Q&A sessions are below along with WDBA's corresponding response, (note that the summary is not a verbatim transcript). To view all materials from the Public Information Meeting, please visit <a href="https://www.wdbridge.com/en/public-information-meeting-july-19-2017">www.wdbridge.com/en/public-information-meeting-july-19-2017</a>.

Additional or follow up questions related to the Gordie Howe International Bridge project should be directed to <u>info@wdbridge.com</u> or via telephone at 519-946-3038.

Question	Answer
Will the City be in charge of paying home owners for their property?  How long will it take to get paid for the properties and who determines the property value?  Is selling mandatory or open for negotiations?  Toxins will increase in the area?	The City of Detroit is responsible for the implementation of their community-based program, "Bridging Neighborhoods." Information is available on the City of Detroit website at www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods.  The Gordie Howe International Bridge will be designed, constructed, and operated in a manner that will mitigate the local impact of emissions through construction measures, maximizing traffic flow and limiting idling time. Precautions will be taken to protect
Who will decide whether the bridge design is	social and environmental systems through environmental review in compliance with new guidelines, design, and construction processes.  As part of the RFP submission, each proponent will
cable stay or suspension?  Will public opinion count at all?	provide a design based on their selected bridge type (suspension or cable stay). The submissions will include the fixed elements required by the Economic Impact Statement (US) and Federal Screening Report (Canada). The bridge structure will be announced following the identification of the preferred proponent.





	Public input and opinion has already counted as it was gathered during the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study which led to the identification of the two bridge types.
We understand the agreements are signed and need to be approved by city council.  What happens if the city council does not approve the agreements?  Can city council choose to only approve one – say the land sale?  If they do not approve the agreements will the community benefits still happen as planned?  When will it be before city council?	On July 25, 2017, the agreements were approved by Detroit City Council. Information is available on the City of Detroit website at <a href="https://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
The process is unfair. The city has represented this community poorly. Historically this area is inundated with pollution and we continue to be disenfranchised.  Why is Canada and the state creating these policies? You want the community to speak with the city who's not a partner.  The State represents these taxpayers, why doesn't the State protect us equally?  The City government does not and cannot speak and represent the community. We demand a seat in these negotiations. The City Council of Detroit is comprised by the State of Michigan. This presents a conflict of Interest against the community.	WDBA, either directly or through the Michigan Department of Transportation, is providing funds to the City of Detroit for property, assets and services. The City of Detroit is determining the specific purposes for which the funds will be used. WDBA is not part of this decision-making process.
What is the target area/boundaries?  Are acquisitions limited to the target area only?  Total cost of the Project?	The US project boundaries are primarily between Lafayette Street just north of I-75 and the Detroit River to the south. The west and east limits of the project area are West End Street (West) and Clark Street (East).
Miles between the two bridges?	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study identified the location of the project footprint and properties that would be required for the construction of the US Port of Entry, the required Gordie Howe International Bridge foundations and the Michigan Interchange.



	It is anticipated that Financial Close will be reached in 2018. Project contract cost and timeline will be announced at this time.
	The Gordie Howe International Bridge will be constructed between Zug Island and Historic Fort Wayne. This is approximately two miles from the Ambassador Bridge.
The property in question is highly contaminated from decades of environmental factors that have concerned the community.	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study was a comprehensive bi-national environmental study that identified requirements to mitigate potential negative impacts from a new crossing. WDBA is
How will dust be managed and mitigated?	committed to minimizing disruptions to communities and the environment and will ensure the private-sector
This will exacerbate asthma patients and may cause asthmatic reaction, will an asthma/trauma unit be placed in the community?	partner will implement steps to mitigate environmental disturbances and limit impacts to nearby residents, people traveling through the construction zone and nearby businesses. Dust mitigation measures that may be implemented as appropriate are as follows:  • Periodic watering or stabilization of disturbed and exposed soils  • Limit speed of vehicular traffic
	Use water sprays during loading/unloading of materials
	Sweep or water flush entrances to construction zones.
Why do you talk or are concerned about pollution?	The City of Detroit is responsible for the implementation of their community-based program, Bridging Neighborhoods. Information is available on
All of Detroit is polluted, are we going to get money to fix the homes that are left north of Melville Street?	the City of Detroit website at <a href="http://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">http://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
Are they positive about the properties they are talking about or is there a possibility of them needing more now in the future?	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study identified the location of the project footprint and properties that would be required for the construction of the US Port of Entry, the required Gordie Howe International Bridge foundations and the Michigan Interchange.
	If your question relates to the City of Detroit's Bridging Neighborhoods Program, information is available on the City of Detroit website at <a href="https://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
How rigorously will the requirement be to use DBE's be enforced?	It is anticipated that many local resources will be employed to deliver this project. Consistent with US Federal Highway Administration rules and regulations, there will be DBE participation on aspects of the project that occur within Michigan.
My only concern is can it be ensured that Detroit citizens will be employed and profit for this bridge? This includes African Americans, Latino and others of colour.	It is anticipated that many local resources will be employed to deliver this project. Consistent with US Federal Highway Administration rules and regulations, there will be DBE participation on aspects of the project that occur within Michigan.



What is the plan for Fort Street (from Livernois to Springwells to Clark Street) and what is planned for the service drive?	Fort Street from Green Street to Junction Street will undergo reconstruction and reconfiguration in some areas to accommodate enhanced access for cyclists and pedestrians. Several intersections along this stretch of Fort Street will also undergo improvements to enhance traffic flow.  The service drives between Springwells Street and Clark Avenue will undergo reconstruction. The service drives near the ramps that will connect I-75 to the US Port of Entry will be realigned between Green Street and Junction Street to accommodate the new ramps.
What will the noise abatement be?  Where the US crossing ramps will be planted are there plans to keep the noise down to a low DB level?	WDBA is committed to minimizing disruptions to communities and will ensure the private-sector partner will implement steps to mitigate construction noise through measures such as ensuring that construction equipment is in good repair and fitted with functioning mufflers; that portable compressors meet federal noise-level standards for that equipment; and that all portable equipment be placed away from or be shielded from sensitive noise receptors.  Construction activities on the Gordie Howe International Bridge will occur in accordance with federal, state, and municipal guidelines. As construction moves forward work schedule information will be communicated to adjacent residents and businesses.  Noise barriers will be installed along I-75 in the locations identified through the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study.
When Marathon expanded their project they cleared our homes for the health and safety of the citizens (a safe distance of 500 feet or more). Are you offering this to this area?  Regardless of offering new windows, filters etc.  – the minute you step outside of your home you are hit with a wall of toxins, pollution, gases etc. So what do you plan to do about our health?	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study identified the location of the project footprint and properties that would be required for the construction of the US Port of Entry, the required Gordie Howe International Bridge foundations and the Michigan Interchange.  If your question relates to the City of Detroit's Bridging Neighborhoods Program, information is available on the City of Detroit website at <a href="https://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
Is it necessary to have a person representing Delray at the Wandmere Cemetary area to reside in the neighbourhood and directly see the problems during construction of the Bridge?  I live right next to the project and am worried that work will be all night and me and my family	WDBA welcomes feedback from all members of the public. We can be reached by email at <a href="mailto:info@wdbridge.com">info@wdbridge.com</a> , by phone calls to 519-946-3038 or by visiting our office at 100 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.  Construction activities on the Gordie Howe International Bridge will occur in accordance with
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need to sleep. What are the work hour restrictions?	construction moves forward work schedule information will be communicated to adjacent
	residents and businesses.
What help will we receive if the property of those that are close to the project is damaged?	It is anticipated that the Gordie Howe International Bridge project will be constructed without causing damage to adjacent properties. WDBA will continue to serve as the community contact during construction. All public inquiries will be received through WDBA including concerns regarding damage.
With regards to the trucks that will be in the area, I would like to know if they will they affect the traffic?	The design of the US POE and toll collection in Canada will result in continuous traffic flow from I-75 through the POE and on to the Gordie Howe International Bridge. This flow will eliminate truck queuing along I-75 and Fort Street in normal operating conditions.
They talk about buying and relocating houses on Campbell.  -My house is affected by the vibration during	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study identified the location of the project footprint and properties that would be required for the construction of the US Port of Entry, the required Gordie Howe
construction.	International Bridge foundations and the Michigan Interchange.
-How will funds be used to help my family?	The City of Detroit is responsible for the implementation of their community based program, "Bridging Neighborhoods." Information is available on the City of Detroit website at <a href="https://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
Please explain what exactly you will do with the money assigned to the resident.  Will they be safe houses in good condition that pass home inspection?	The City of Detroit is responsible for the implementation of their community based program, "Bridging Neighborhoods." Information is available on the City of Detroit website at <a href="https://www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods">www.detroitmi.gov/BridgingNeighborhoods</a> .
Will the city of Detroit provide advisers?	www.detroitm.gov/bridgingrengribornoods.
What will happen to the houses that won't be bought that are affected by the construction of the bridge, because now that construction began, it is a big nuisance on our street, besides the noise.	The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study identified the location of the project footprint and properties that would be required for the construction of the US Port of Entry, the required Gordie Howe International Bridge foundations and the Michigan Interchange.
	WDBA is committed to minimizing disruptions to communities and will ensure the private-sector partner will implement steps to mitigate construction noise through measures such as ensuring that construction equipment is in good repair and fitted with functioning mufflers; that portable compressors meet federal noise-level standards for that equipment; and that all portable equipment be placed away from or be shielded from sensitive noise receptors.



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