



2020 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT: FUNDED INITIATIVES

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan region. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan which includes the Workforce Development and Participation Strategy and the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy.

The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy of the Community Benefits Plan includes a commitment to provide a \$50,000 (CDN) annual investment allowance over five years for community organizations located in or servicing Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit (the host communities) respectively. Funds will be used to support events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will benefit the host communities and align with one of the community investment priorities, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.

Eligible registered non-profit and charitable organizations were invited to submit requests for funding between November 2019 and January 2020. 50 eligible applications were reviewed, scored and prioritized by members of the Local Community Group which includes 16 stakeholders representing various perspectives from Windsor and Detroit. The prioritized applications were reviewed by senior project representatives from Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, Bridging North America and the State of Michigan to identify applications that will receive funding in 2020.

In July 2020, the first release of \$100,000 (CDN) funding through the Community Organization Investment will be provided to successful applicants. Six initiatives will receive funding in Canada and three in the US. The Community Organization Investment initiative will be available annually for a five-year duration from 2020 – 2024. An open call for applications will occur in late fall of each year, with funding released to successful applicants the following July.

Additional details about this year's nine initiatives are identified below.

CANADIAN INITIATIVES

SANDWICH UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

FREEDOM MUSEUM

Organization: Sandwich First Baptist Church

Funding: \$20,000

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

The Sandwich First Baptist Church will construct a heritage museum that will honour the Sandwich area's role with the Underground Railroad and celebrate the contributions of African Canadians. The museum will be curated within a modified shipping container located in the Sandwich community.

HELPING HANDS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

Organization: Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Windsor Essex Central Council

Funding: \$11,000

Initiative Type: Programming

The Helping Hands Friendship Centre provides no-cost, fun activities for diverse residents of the west-end. Activities include: a family fun day barbeque, tours and picnics, educational programs, bingo, arts and crafts as well as communal celebrations of special holidays like Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Funding will be used to reach more members.

SPREADING OUR ROOTS

Organization: Friends of the Court

Funding: \$8,000

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

Friends of the Court and partners undertook a comprehensive review of the landscape conditions of Mackenzie Hall in Sandwich and identified a need for large stock trees and supportive infrastructure to fully realize the potential of the outdoor space. Funds will be used to purchase and replace large stock native trees, reposition a heritage pear tree, replace deteriorated or missing perennial plant material and install a support rail for existing wisteria shrubs.

BINATIONAL DETROIT RIVER CLEANUP

Organization: Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA)

Funding: \$4,100

Initiative Type: Event

ERCA, the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup (DRCC) and several other community organizations are planning to offer a binational Detroit River Canadian Cleanup event, in response to the need beyond their annual cleanups. The event will include two cleanup locations in Sandwich, Windsor including Black Oaks Heritage Park/Ojibway Shores and the area between Queen's Dock Park and McKee Park.

AMERICAN INITIATIVES

THE BID IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Organization: West Vernor & Springwells Business Improvement District (BID)

Funding: \$20,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

West Vernor & Springwells BID will design and implement a social media campaign to promote the West Vernor and Springwells businesses at specific times of the year including Cinco De Mayo, Dia de Los Muertos, holiday shopping and Southwest Restaurant Week. The social media campaign aims to attract more customers to businesses operating near the Gordie Howe International Bridge construction sites.

BIG NEIGHBOURHOOD – SANDWICH

Organization: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex

Funding: \$4,500

Initiative Type: Event & Programming

Big Brother Big Sisters of Windsor Essex will create a targeted outreach campaign to find new in-school mentors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters to serve 75 more children and youth from the Sandwich area. The campaign will include four outreach and recruitment events held in the community to allow potential volunteers to better understand the Big Brothers Big Sisters program and the need for mentors in the neighbourhood.

GRAND OPENING EVENT: DUFF-BÂBY MANSION

Organization: Les Amis Duff-Bâby

Funding: \$2,400

Initiative Type: Event

Les Amis Duff-Bâby will host a grand opening event at the Duff-Bâby Mansion to commemorate the partnership that was recently established between the City of Windsor, Ontario Heritage Trust and Les Amis Duff-Bâby. This partnership will permit regular public access to the historically significant structure and site. The grand opening event will feature reenactments, events for children, tours of the house, walking tours of the Sandwich community and more.

SOUTHWEST EXPANDED SENIORS SERVICES

Organization: Bridging Communities, Inc.

Funding: \$15,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

Bridging Communities will increase the social interactions of seniors in Delray through enhanced supportive services. Services would include conducting monthly wellbeing checks to ensure seniors' needs are being addressed and hosting community events, such as cooking classes, speed dating, dinner dances, trivia nights and other social events, to allow seniors to make connections with their peers.

FOOD PANTRY EQUIPMENT & REPLACEMENT EXPANSION PROGRAM

Organization: Ste. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church
(Food Pantry)

Funding: \$15,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

Ste. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church Food Pantry is experiencing an increased demand for food as well as household and personal care items. The organization will use funds to purchase equipment to enhance and expand the pantry's food storage and handling capabilities to serve a growing number of individuals and families seeking food assistance.

PUBLIC REPORTING

The Community Benefits Plan includes a robust documenting, tracking and reporting structure that demonstrates accountability to the region. The Community Benefits Plan is posted on www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com, along with quarterly reports on initiative progress and results. Updates on initiatives funded through the 2020 Community Organization Investment, will be posted during the delivery period.

For more information about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project visit www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com or call 1-844-322-1773. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/GordieHoweBrg, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GordieHoweBridge and connect with us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/wdba-apwd.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The aggressive construction schedule for the Gordie Howe International Bridge project will continue through the summer and fall 2020 into winter 2020-21. Construction is ongoing simultaneously throughout the four project components - the bridge, Canadian and US Ports of Entry (POE) and Michigan Interchange.

Construction activities that are in progress and will occur over the next few months include:

PORTS OF ENTRY

US PORT OF ENTRY (POE)

Bridging North America (BNA) continues to advance construction at the US POE. As part of this work, roads have been permanently closed to facilitate Phase One, Two and Three of construction.

Clearing and grubbing is complete and major earthworks have begun with more than 550,000 metric tonnes (1.2 billion pounds) of engineered fill and surcharge material placed.

More than 52,505 wick drains (of 105,000) have been installed to accelerate the settlement of soils to expedite construction and limit long-term settlement.

As part of the Phase Three work, which will begin in summer 2020, activities include:

- ongoing soil sampling
- installation of an instrument monitoring system
- gate installation at the perimeter fence.

Construction traffic is using designated haul routes to minimize community impacts, traffic congestion and wear and tear on existing infrastructure while maximizing public and construction safety. Construction traffic is respecting restrictions on truck movements that are in place with the City of Detroit. Routes for construction traffic in the US include: M-85 (Fort St), Green St (from Fort to Jefferson Ave), Livernois Ave (from I-75 to Norfolk Southern Railroad), Dragoon Street (from I-75 to Norfolk Southern Railroad), Campbell Street (from Fort Street to Jefferson Avenue), Jefferson Avenue (from Campbell to the west City limits) and any permanently closed roadways. Designated haul routes are maintained for dust control and cleared of tracked mud.

CANADIAN POE

A four-kilometre Perimeter Access Road around the Canadian POE was constructed providing access to the adjacent businesses.

Complex Hydro One transmission line cable installations and terminations were also installed and are now tested and energized.

Wick drain installation is underway to help consolidate the soils for future building construction. Approximately 103,000 wick drains have been installed of a total 150,000.

Crews have placed 650,000 metric tonnes (1.4 billion pounds) of permanent grade raise and surcharge.

I-75 INTERCHANGE WORK

The demolition of three road bridges (Clark Street, Livernois Avenue and Springwells Street) crossing I-75 has been completed to make room for the new connecting ramps from the highway to the US POE.

Work over the next several months will focus on the reconstruction of these bridges which is anticipated to be complete in early 2021.

Over the next few months, the following work will be in process:

- reconstruction of I-75 ramps to and from Springwells Street and Livernois Street
- reconstruction of I-75 Service Drives (northbound and southbound) from Springwells Street to Green Street
- start of construction of Solvay Street Pedestrian Bridge
- completion of mainline shoulder expansion work at Springwells Street and Livernois Avenue, then traffic shift outside and start of construction of median piers.

BRIDGE WORK

Construction of the tower foundations for the main bridge are underway on both the Canadian and US bridge sites. Essential test shaft work for the bridge footings are complete. BNA will begin building structures on the ground this year.

The foundation for each tower is composed of a total of 18, 36-metre drilled production shafts; 12 for the main tower footing and six for the backspan.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING CANADIAN SITE WORKS

- Footing mock-up works for the second concrete pour
- Footing construction: rebar, steel template, formwork, post-tensioning, cooling, concrete pour
- Footing and columns side span works: rebar, formwork, concrete pour
- Drill shafts side span works: pile demolition
- Climbing system mockup (jumpforms)

CURRENT AND UPCOMING US SITE WORKS

- Tower drilled shaft concrete cleanout
- Electrical grounding on north and south footings
- Crane erection to assist in tower construction
- Mudslab installation
- Footing construction: rebar, steel template, formwork, post-tensioning, cooling, concrete pour
- Back span/anchor pier construction
- Tower jumpform assembly

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