

Bridging North America – Preferred Proponent

On July 5, 2018, Windsor-Detroit-Bridge Authority (WDBA) announced Bridging North America as the Preferred Proponent for the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. This once-in-a-generation infrastructure project will deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers and commercial vehicles. It will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor-Detroit region and beyond.

Team Members

Bridging North America's prime team members include:

- ACS Infrastructure Canada Inc.
- Dragados Canada Inc.
- Fluor Canada Ltd.
- AECOM
- RBC Dominion Securities Inc.
- Carlos Fernandez Casado and FHECOR Ingenieros Consultores, S.A. (CFC/FHECOR)
- Moriyama & Teshima
- Smith-Miller+Hawkinson Architects.



Bridging North America partners have significant experience carrying out major infrastructure projects such as the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway in Windsor, Ontario; New Champlain Bridge Corridor in Montreal, Quebec; Autoroute 30 in Montreal, Quebec; Eglinton Crosstown LRT in Toronto, Ontario; Réseau Express Métropolitain (REM) in Montreal, Quebec; Automated People Mover at LAX Airport, California; Harbour Bridge and Tappan Zee Bridge in New York and San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge.

Bridge Design

Bridging North America has selected a cable-stayed design for the Gordie Howe International Bridge. The six-lane, 2.5 kilometres/1.5 miles Gordie Howe International Bridge will be characterized by having an "A" shape. The Gordie Howe International Bridge will have the longest main span of any cable-stayed bridge in North America at 853 metres.

Project Implementation

WDBA's private-sector partner will be responsible to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Canadian and US Ports of Entry and the bridge and to design, build and finance the Michigan Interchange. Michigan will be responsible for the operations and maintenance of the Michigan Interchange.



For more information about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project visit www.wdbridge.com. 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.



Public-Private Partnership (P3) Procurement Process

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is being delivered through a public-private partnership or a P3. To select a private-sector partner to deliver the project components – the Canadian and US Ports of Entry (POEs), the bridge and the Michigan Interchange – WDBA is running a rigorous and fair procurement process. The procurement process is made of two main stages – the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and the Request for Proposals (RFP). WDBA's procurement process is designed for WDBA to choose a private-sector partner with the skills, experiences and resources necessary to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Gordie Howe International Bridge project.

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) - Completed January 20, 2016

The Request for Qualifications was issued on July 20, 2015. The purpose of the RFQ is to pre-qualify teams to deliver the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. RFQ submissions were evaluated on the respondents' demonstrated experience and qualifications to deliver and finance large and complex infrastructure projects. Three short-listed respondent teams were announced on January 20, 2016.

Request for Proposals (RFP) - Started November 10, 2016

The issuance of the RFP to the Proponents was announced on November 10, 2016. The RFP sets out the conditions and specifications required to undertake the project. It is issued to only pre-qualified Proponents selected through the RFQ stage.

Evaluation

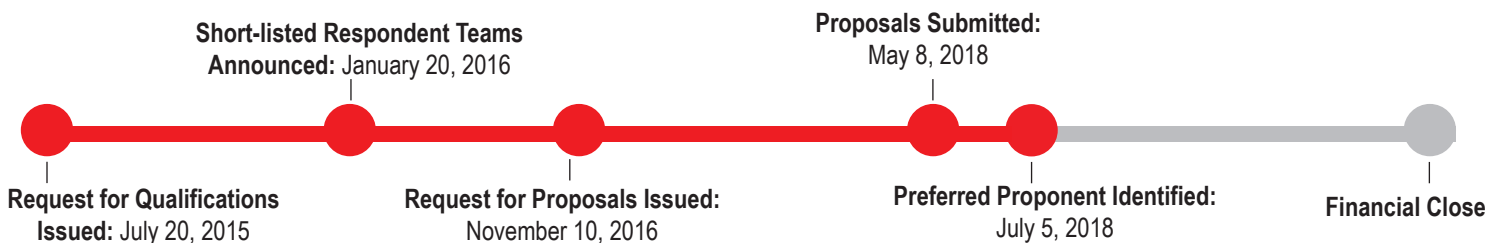
By May 8, 2018, the three Proponent teams submitted their proposals to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. The proposals were rigorously evaluated by teams comprised of experts from WDBA, its Owner's Engineer, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and other government departments with experience in various disciplines including engineering, legal and finance. As with the entire P3 procurement process, the evaluation was overseen by an independent fairness monitor.

Preferred Proponent and Financial Close

On July 5, 2018, WDBA announced it had selected Bridging North America as the Preferred Proponent. Subject to reaching Financial Close when the contract is finalized, the Preferred Proponent will become WDBA's private-sector partner. It is expected that Financial Close will be reached by the end of September 2018.



Procurement Timeline



Progress to Date and Next Steps

Windsor-Detroit-Bridge Authority (WDBA) has invested over \$350 million to date in readying the Canadian and US lands required for construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. Much of this work has been completed by local companies and workers. More than 575 workers from over 50 companies have received environmental and, health and safety training allowing them to work on the Canadian site. In Michigan, 22 Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) have been contracted to complete work at the US Port of Entry. Significant progress has been made in an effort to turn over a construction ready site to the Preferred Proponent – Bridging North America.

Canadian Port of Entry

Work is well underway to prepare the Canadian Port of Entry site for construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project later this year. Take a look at some of the Canadian progress highlights achieved to date:

- 3 km (1.8 miles) of new access road for adjacent businesses and properties completed
- Over 1 million tonnes of fill - equivalent to 34 shiploads - have been placed to grade and sculpt the site.
- More than 27 km (almost 16 miles) of cabling has been relocated.
- Over 902 tonnes of waste material has been collected.
- 3 transmission towers have been constructed as part of the hydro transmission and distribution activities.
- Construction of 2 new stormwater management ponds and rehabilitation of the Broadway Drain is complete.
- Over 6 km (over 3.5 miles) of gas lines have been installed to meet current and future needs.
- To date, more than 4.6 km (almost 3 miles) of exclusion fence has been erected to limit access to the site by species at risk, other wildlife and people.

US Port of Entry

Below are some highlights of progress achieved to date to prepare the US project site:

- 93 percent of properties required for US project components have been acquired/under control and required resident and business relocations have been completed.
- 255 buildings have been demolished on properties under MDOT's control.
- Over 30,000 ft (almost 6 miles) of electric cables have been installed.
- Over 6,640 cubic yards of debris has been removed from vacant parcels of land.
- Over 4,600 trees have been removed from lands already acquired for the project.
- Construction of eight new sewer crossings on a portion of I-75 has been completed.
- Over 1,600 ft (over half a mile) of pipes and box culverts have been installed.
- Over 7,700 ft (over 1.5 miles) of gas lines have been installed to meet current and future needs.

Next Steps

Early Works

To take advantage of the summer 2018 construction season, an Early Work Agreement will be signed between Bridging North America and Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority. It is anticipated that Bridging North America will begin Early Work construction in July.

Financial Close

Between now and September, partnership details will be negotiated as part of the contract with Bridging North America and once finalized, both parties will be legally bound and obligated to their commitments. The Project Agreement will be executed between Bridging North America and WDBA by the end of September 2018. Major construction will begin shortly after.

Over the coming months, Bridging North America also aims to:

- establish project offices in the communities of Windsor and Detroit
- invite suitable companies to submit proposals to provide supplies and equipment
- begin recruitment efforts to fill a variety of project-related roles.

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Cable-stayed Bridge Conceptual Image

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