

Gordie Howe International Bridge

MOMENTUM

issued by: Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority



PONT INTERNATIONAL
**GORDIE
HOWE**
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE



The Gordie Howe International Bridge project between Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan will help move goods and people more efficiently at this important trade gateway. Managed by Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA) and working in collaboration with the State of Michigan, the project is being delivered through a public-private partnership (P3) which will see Bridging North America design, build, finance, operate and maintain the bridge.

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SPANNING CONNECTIONS: BACK AND SIDE SPANS UNDERWAY

It's an exciting year for Gordie Howe International Bridge project construction. Work is visibly advancing on all four components of the project. While much of the focus until now has been on the bridge tower legs, preparatory work has started for the bridge/road deck construction, including the installation of the first steel girder that will support the road deck. The back and side spans of the bridge deck foundations on both sides of the border are also being constructed. These spans will connect the bridge to each Port of Entry.

In Canada, surcharge has been placed at the gateway that will connect to the traffic ramp leading to the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway. In the US, work has begun on the connecting ramps leading into the Port of Entry from I-75. Piers are being placed to support the connecting ramps, constructed of rebar and concrete as well as prestressed tendons to tie down the road deck. There are 12 pier columns in total – six each in Canada and the US. Each pier column extends 30 metres/98 feet into the ground. Approximately 3040 cubic metres/3976 cubic yards of concrete and 700 tonnes/1.4 million pounds of rebar will be used in the construction of the piers. Once complete, the piers will range in height from 15.6 metres/51.1 feet to 26.6 metres/87.3 feet. The side span pier columns have a planned completion of late 2022 for both sides of the border.

CONTACT US



Have a question about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project?

Call us toll-free at **1-844-322-1773**

Email us at info@wdbridge.com

Message us through any of the project **social media accounts**.

Sandwich Community Office at **3201 Sandwich St.***

Southwest Detroit Community Office at **7744 W Vernor Hwy.***

***Community Offices are currently closed due to Covid-19.**

Read more about all project updates on GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com



Canadian Bridge Site Pier Columns



US Bridge Site Pier Columns



PEOPLE PROFILE

MEET AXEL HABİYAKARE

Axel is an Engineer in Training (EIT) working for Bridging North America. In 2019, Axel graduated from the Civil Engineering program at the University of Windsor and started working on the project in his hometown of Windsor, Ontario, right out of school.

Q. What type of work are you doing on the project?

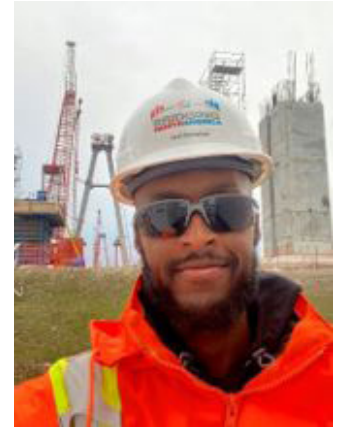
As a Field Engineer, I am a part of the team responsible for construction at the Canadian bridge approach and side span. I review construction compliance with project drawings and specifications by conducting routine inspections. In the case of any issue, I collaborate with the craft crews, subcontractors, or the designer to find and implement solutions. In addition to this, I conduct design reviews for temporary works and coordinate material and equipment with vendors.

Q. What is the most rewarding part of working on the project?

My inspiration to becoming an engineer was to build something to benefit society, my community, and my city. What's better than connecting two countries and two economies? I feel so fortunate to work in my hometown where my family and friends can see what we are building. I have the greatest mentors, leaders, and colleagues to learn from and I even have been given the chance to mentor engineering interns myself. I am amazed at the multi-talented people who remind me daily that executing without compromise is a job well done.

Q. What do you wish other people knew about the project?

We pull everyone together, in every role regardless of status, and put our minds together to find a solution to any problem, often drawing on the knowledge and experience from previous projects. I feel I am a part of something monumental and am so proud of my work. I am excited to see this project through and take that first drive across the bridge to Detroit.



AXEL HABİYAKARE

Canadian Bridge Field Engineer in Training – Bridging North America

CORBELS CARRYING THE LOAD

Corbels play an important role in bridge construction. A corbel is a structural component jutting from a piece of infrastructure to help carry weight. Before the bridge road deck work can begin, reinforced concrete corbels had to be installed on each of the four tower legs. As a cable-stayed bridge, cables will support the bridge deck spanning the river and the corbels will support the bridge deck near the tower legs and provide a place to support the bearings for the bridge. To help with corbel construction, temporary falsework was put in place. The steel support columns of the falsework have now been removed as the corbels have reached their full concrete strength.



PYLON HEAD MOVES UP

The lower pylons/tower legs on both sides of the river have joined at approximately 140 metres/446 feet tall. Work has now started on the final 1/3 of the single tower called the pylon head, which will be approximately 80 metres/262 feet tall. The tower on both sides of the river is anticipated to reach its final height of 220 metres/722 feet by the end of 2022. Subscribe to the project YouTube channel to watch a video on tower construction to learn more.



IN THE COMMUNITY

Sandwich Litter Cleanup

In April, Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) gathered volunteers in Sandwich to host a litter cleanup. Through the group's efforts, 1,659 pounds or 752 kilograms of litter was removed from the community. This initiative is part of a broader Detroit River binational program celebrating Earth Month, hosted through the Detroit River Coalition. The Gordie Howe International Bridge is a proud partner through the project's Community Benefits Plan.



Walpole Island First Nation Workforce Session

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project team, unions, subcontractors, and representatives from the Walpole Island First Nation Employment and Training Program attended the Walpole Island Sports Complex on May 10, to provide information about job opportunities on the project. Members were invited to come out and learn about available jobs, how to apply, and learn more about pathways to careers in skilled trades.

Detroit Job Fairs

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project team participated in a job fair on May 11, at the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights in Detroit. This event was free to all job seekers and youth interested in a skilled trades career. Bridging North America accepted applications and showcased the project to prospective employees and tomorrow's workforce.

The project team also attended the Construction Science Expo on May 17, at Durfee Innovation Society. This was a free event for middle school and high school students interested in engineering and construction careers.



Delray Home Improvement Program

The Delray Home Improvement Program launched in winter 2021, offering free home repairs to eligible homes or duplexes in the area surrounding the bridge and Port of Entry site on the US side. Successful applicants may receive items from the pre-approved repair/replacement list, based on an assessment of the home, with a per-house cap of \$20,000 (USD).

Repairs include:

- roof repair and/or roof replacement
- window and/or door replacement
- roof insulation and/or wall insulation
- repair or replacement of heating, ventilation, and/or air-conditioning (HVAC) unit

The service area now includes South Leigh Street to the west, Clark Street to the east, West Jefferson Avenue to the south and the northbound I-75 Service Drive to the north. Information is available at GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com. This program represents a \$4 million (CDN) investment being delivered as part of the project Community Benefits Plan.

DELRAY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Sandwich Street Reconstruction

In February, the Gordie Howe International Bridge project team held Online Community Meetings to inform the public about the upcoming Sandwich Street reconstruction project and the \$1 million enhancements provided through the Community Benefits Plan. An online survey allowed the Windsor community to provide their feedback about how the \$1 million should be prioritized. Participants were asked to rank four categories based on their preference for investment: hardscaping, landscaping, gathering spaces, and active transportation. Over 75 residents participated in the meetings and took the survey. Results from the survey are under review to help inform Bridging North America's decisions regarding street enhancements. Designs are anticipated to be publicly shared in summer 2022.

US TRAFFIC

Michigan Interchange work is well underway. Clark Street reconstruction continues into the summer and the Clark Street road bridge will re-open to the public in June.

Summer Construction Includes:

- The Green Street road bridge crossing I-75 is being rebuilt
- The Junction Street road bridge crossing I-75 will be removed in summer 2022
- Reconstruction of I-75 Mainline and Service Drives (northbound and southbound) between Green Street and Livernois Avenue
- Construction of ramps connecting I-75 with the US POE
- Siphon work

QUARTERLY COMMUNITY MEETING

Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority and Bridging North America will hold an Online Community Meeting on June 15, 2022, on the project Facebook page. The meeting will provide the latest updates on the Canadian and US construction activities and the implementation of the Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan. The presentation will begin promptly at 3:00 p.m.

RAMPING UP

Preparation of the service drives for the construction of new on- and off-ramps to and from the US Port of Entry (POE), and the I-75 ramps at Springwells Street, Clark Street and West Vernor Highway has begun. Work on the new connecting ramps will continue over the next two years. This will include pile driving, concrete footing, pier construction, future girder placement and road deck construction. The final configuration of the I-75 including the new ramps constructed to enter and exit the US Port of Entry are referenced in the image below.



KID ZONE

Complete the Gordie Howe International Bridge crossword puzzle using the hints below. Good luck!

Down:

1. the Canadian city the bridge connects to
2. the Canadian province the bridge connects to
4. the type of bridge the Gordie Howe International Bridge will be
6. the name Gordie Howe was often referred as
7. the US city the bridge connects to

Across:

3. the US state that the bridge connects to
5. a piece of equipment used to excavate or move large objects
8. shortform for "port of entry"
9. a small industrial vehicle with a power operated forked platform attached at the front that lifts and moves heavy pieces of construction material
10. a machine that mixes cement and other materials such as sand or gravel and water and delivers it to the job site

