

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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START OF CABLE INSTALLATION

In January, Bridging North America started stay cables installation on the Gordie Howe International Bridge. This is an integral part of the bridge's cable-stayed design and signals significant progress as the team works towards the bridge's completion. In total, 216 stay cables – 108 pairs from each tower – will support the weight of the bridge.

Last summer, crews began installing structural steel anchor boxes into the bridge towers. The anchor boxes will secure the stay cables that connect the towers to the bridge deck and road deck. Seventy boxes will be installed in the two bridge towers, with 35 on each side.

A stay cable includes a number of rope-like metal strands housed in a pipe. Each stay cable on the Gordie Howe International Bridge will have between 38 and 122 strands inside depending on the location. Once complete, more than 16,000 strands will be used to connect the bridge towers to the deck.

The installation process for each pair of stay cables takes about two-to-five days and is performed over multiple shifts. The ends of each metal strand inside the pipe are stressed and anchored to two points – an anchor box inside the tower and an edge girder on the deck. Once a pair of stay cables is securely anchored, the workers will move on the next pair in a sequential manner.

In a cable-stayed bridge design, the cables serve two purposes – they deliver the weight of the entire structure to the tower and, through tension, maintain the bridge deck's stability and placement. Read more about the cable installation process on GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

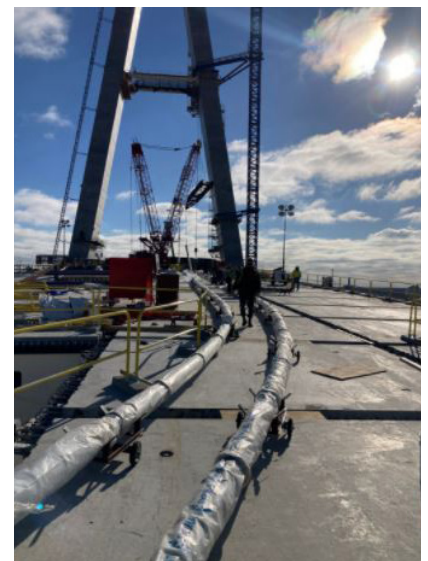
CONTACT US

Have a question about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project?

Make an appointment to meet with our team at our Sandwich Community Office at **3201 Sandwich St.** or Southwest Detroit Community Office at **7744 W Vernor Hwy.**

Available office hours on GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

Call us toll-free at **1-844-322-1773**, email us at info@wdbridge.com, or message us through any of the project social media accounts.



PEOPLE PROFILE

MEET HILDA DAO

Hilda is a Junior Coordinator, Engineer in Training (EIT) for Bridging North America. She graduated from St. Clair College with a diploma in Civil Engineering Technology, then went on to the University of Windsor where she graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Honours Civil Engineering.

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

I work at the Canadian Port of Entry. I started off in cost control then after a year, had the opportunity to work as a junior coordinator. I have been involved in both office and field responsibilities. In the office, I review and process drawings and various submittals for work to be completed on site, including facilities concrete, building façades, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection. I have led my own scope of work from tender to subcontract execution. In the field I work directly with our superintendents. A typical day involves tracking progress in the field, inspections, coordinating with various trades and submitting daily progress reports.

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

Working on the Gordie Howe International Bridge project was a personal goal. I was born and raised in Windsor and it's not every day that you get to be part of a historical project in your hometown. Once it's completed, I want to pass by the bridge and point out that I had a part in building it.

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

When most people hear about the project, they automatically think about the main bridge span. I want to shine a spotlight on the Canadian Port of Entry. It's a huge campus comprised of civil and facilities works that involve a lot of attention to detail and in turn, require extensive coordination amongst various trades.



HILDA DAO

Junior Coordinator, EIT – Bridging North America

NEW COMMUNITY BENEFITS PLAN INVESTMENTS

With implementation of the Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan at the midway point of its five-year term, the project team has identified new investment opportunities worth \$2.3 million (CDN). Eleven new projects are being added to the Plan, along with expanded funding to six existing initiatives, all of which bring further benefits to the local communities. The funding is part of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy, a \$20 million (CDN) direct community investment on both sides of the border. In 2022, the project team accepted several new proposals and undertook community consultation to review the current priorities of the neighbourhoods closest to the project. The \$2.3 million will be invested in the following community priority areas:

- \$1.1 million for Community Partnerships
- \$659,600 for Economic Benefits
- \$400,000 for Community Safety and Connections
- \$142,000 for Aesthetics and Landscaping.

Funding has been released to the organizations. Their projects will be delivered over the next one-to-two years. Details on the new and expanded initiatives are available at GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.



ARTISTIC PANELS UNVEILED

In February, an artistic building façade at the Canadian Port of Entry was unveiled at the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. The artistic building façade consists of formed concrete panels that reflect the positive imagery of Canadian landscapes. The Commission was designed by Sara Graham, a Canadian artist who hails from southern Ontario and is currently based in Port Moody, British Columbia. She has exhibited her work across North America and has also undertaken several public art commissions with the most recent one installed in Richmond, BC in 2020. Four different stamped concrete panels have been integrated into the building's façade in a series of varying perspectives. Each panel reflects various aspects of the Canadian landscape, including lakes, rivers, prairies, and mountains.

Public art is part of the project's broader Visual Art Program, which aims to create memorable, high-quality works of art of singular quality, character, and presence consistent with the international importance of the bridge and to celebrate and promote creativity and friendship between Canada and the U.S. To highlight the commission, WDBA has partnered with Art Windsor-Essex to launch a new exhibit of Ms. Graham's work, which opens to the public in mid-March 2023 and runs through May 2023. Life-size reproductions of the artistic panels will also be available to allow a closer look since the originals will only be visible to visitors as they drive through the Canadian Port of Entry. Art Windsor-Essex will also offer related educational and community-based programming to support the exhibition through in-person and virtual presentations to Windsor-Essex elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools, along with special interest groups.



IN THE COMMUNITY

MIRACLE IN SANDWICH

In December, the Gordie Howe International Bridge project team welcomed Santa to Sandwich Towne for the annual tree lighting in Mary E. Bibb Park at Mackenzie Hall. An ornament painting activity was held for children of all ages at our Sandwich Community Office.



CONGRESS OF COMMUNITIES TOY DRIVE

In December, the Gordie Howe International Bridge project team collected toys for the Congress of Communities toy drive and Holiday Festival in Southwest Detroit. More than 650 people attended the festival, and more than 400 children received gifts.



2023 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT UPDATE

The Community Organization Investment (COI) initiative is a five-year program that provides funding to organizations serving Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. This year's application period recently closed, with 42 applications received in pursuit of the \$100,000 (CDN) available on each side of the border. The funds support events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will benefit the communities. Over the past three years, the initiative has supported 23 agencies and organizations serving southwest Detroit and West Windsor. This year's applications will be reviewed by the Local Community Group, comprised of 16 stakeholders from Windsor and Detroit, who will recommend projects for funding. Applicants will be notified in April about the status of their application and funding will be released to recipients in July.



Representatives from the nine organizations who received funding through the 2022 COI initiative and members of the project team.

DELRAY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM EXPANSION

The Delray Home Improvement Program, a free home repair program for homes or duplexes in the area surrounding the Gordie Howe International Bridge, has expanded into a new service area. In addition to the neighbourhoods closest to the US Port of Entry, residences in the Carbon Works area can now apply. The program represents a \$4 million (CDN) investment being delivered as part of the project Community Benefits Plan. Repairs will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

DELRAY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Offered through the Community Benefits Plan, a **FREE** home repair program is now available for eligible properties in Delray, Detroit.

TARGET AREA 3 PROGRAM BOUNDARIES:
I-75 to the north
Clark Avenue/South Clark Street to the east
the River Rouge to the west
the Detroit River to the south

APPLY AT
GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com

ON THE MOVE

In December, crews disassembled two cranes previously stationed on the ground at the Canadian and US bridge sites, and reinstalled and assembled them on the bridge's road decks. The move was required as crews prepare to build the bridge deck out over the water. The cranes will be used to place girders, deck segments and precast panels. The construction approach for the main span of the bridge that will extend over the river is called the "unbalanced cantilever system." Starting from the main towers in Windsor and Detroit, construction of the bridge will build outward towards the centre of the river, one segment at a time. The back span of the road deck is being constructed first, with temporary supports that will be removed once the cables are installed. Construction materials and equipment are transported over the back span to the construction zone. These activities are undertaken on the bridge deck, eliminating the need for equipment to operate from the water. On the Canadian site, crews have three crawler cranes, three rough terrain cranes and one tower crane. The American side has five crawler cranes, two rough terrain cranes and one tower crane.



SCALE MODEL ON DISPLAY

The Gordie Howe International Bridge scale model is now on display in the lobby of the Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre until March 6, 2023. An impressive work of art at approximately 6.1m/20ft long and 2.4m/8ft wide, the replica provides a high level of detail that goes beyond the limits of pen and paper allowing viewers to visualize the project in its entirety. It includes all four components of the project – the bridge, the two Ports of Entry, and the Michigan Interchange – as well as local roadways, trees, and vehicles. This brings the project to life for visitors and gives them a more tangible understanding of the new border transportation system. Visitors can view the model for free during International Aquatic and Training Centre business hours. The 1:750 scale model was previously displayed at Art Windsor-Essex (formerly the Art Gallery of Windsor) in 2021 and in the main lobby of Windsor City Hall at the end of 2022. The project team continues to seek opportunities to publicly showcase the model.



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority and Bridging North America will hold Public Information Meetings on March 22, 2023, in Detroit at Kiosko Banquet Hall and on March 23, 2023, in Windsor at Mackenzie Hall. The meetings will provide the latest updates on Canadian and US construction activities and the implementation of the Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan. Presentations will begin promptly at 3:30 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. followed by a question-and-answer session. Questions will be accepted both in advance and at the meetings. To submit your questions in advance, email info@wdbridge.com.

KID ZONE

Play Gordie Howe International Bridge tic tac toe.

