



**City of Kingston
Information Report to Council
Report Number 21-090**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Peter Huigenbos, Commissioner, Business, Environment & Projects
Resource Staff: Mark Van Buren, Deputy Commissioner, Major Projects
Date of Meeting: March 23, 2021
Subject: Third Crossing – Quarterly Update Q1 2021

Council Strategic Plan Alignment:

Theme: 3. Improve walkability, roads and transportation

Goal: See above

Executive Summary:

The Major Projects Office continues to provide quarterly reports to update Council on the status of the Third Crossing. This quarterly report covers activities during Q1 of 2021.

This report provides an update to Council on major work activities that have been completed since December 2020, including completion of detailed design activities, ongoing work on permits and approvals, and on-site construction activities. This information report also provides details regarding recent communication and engagement work with the public, near neighbours, Indigenous communities and various stakeholder groups. In addition, the report provides a look ahead to upcoming major activities that the project team will be undertaking.

Approximately 50 percent of the construction work has been completed and the overall project continues to target substantial completion at the end of 2022.

Recommendation:

This report is for information only.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

Peter Huigenbos, Commissioner,
Business, Environment &
Projects

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lanie Hurdle, Chief
Administrative Officer

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Paige Agnew, Commissioner, Community Services Not required

Brad Joyce, Commissioner, Corporate Services Not required

Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston Not required

Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer

Sheila Kidd, Commissioner, Transportation & Public Works

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Options/Discussion:**A. Detailed Design**

The Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) team has completed the detailed design work for the Third Crossing project. All of the main design packages for the bridge and roadworks have now been issued for construction. The design team will continue to work on the completion of final design elements for shoreland landscaping elements and address possible design adjustments to optimize construction efficiencies as works proceed.

B. Permits and Approvals

The IPD team continues to provide regular environmental compliance monitoring together with weekly reports submitted to federal agencies including Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Transport Canada. These reports provide information on water quality, wildlife and construction noise monitoring as well as detail inspections of the on-site turbidity curtains, turtle fencing and wildlife eco-passages.

The IPD team continued to advance various Component Environmental Management Plans (CEMPs) which are detailed work plans that cover appropriate environmental controls for various aspects of the bridge construction. During the last quarter, focus was given to providing the federal agencies with information on the main span steel erection workplan and corresponding operation of the lift span on the temporary trestle bridge during the upcoming boating season. In addition, the IPD team has also been working with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to seek exemption from the in-water work exclusion period from March 15th to July 1st. A detailed workplan with the necessary environmental protection measures and proposed monitoring has been developed to support this exemption. Fisheries and Oceans Canada has reviewed and granted their approval for this exemption for the timing window in 2021. A similar exemption was applied for and granted for in-water work completed during the timing window in 2020.

C. Construction Activities

The IPD team continues to maintain a vigilant approach to monitoring, updating and sharing any information with all project staff on the COVID-19 Response & Prevention Plan that has been developed specifically for the Third Crossing project. The IPD team continues to monitor potential COVID-19 related risks and is regularly liaising with trade partners and subcontractors to identify potential disruptions/delays with supply chains for critical materials and equipment and any related financial or schedule impacts.

On-site construction work has been steadily progressing through the first quarter of 2021. A significant construction milestone was achieved with the completion of all the bridge foundations and piers in late February. Bauer Foundations Canada, who is one of the major trade partners for the IPD team, were responsible for completing this work that involved the construction of 21 foundations for the bridge. This concludes a critical phase of the overall bridge construction work that started in mid-2020.

With the underwater construction activities largely completed, the above water form of the bridge is becoming more visible as work progresses on several of the bridge components. ABF

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Reinforcing Steel, who is one of the main project subcontractors, has continued to make progress on the pier cap construction work. At present, 10 pier caps have now been completed with an additional 3 pier caps underway with formwork and steel reinforcing being installed.

The installation of concrete girders has also commenced in early February. A total of ninety-five (95) reinforced concrete girders are being manufactured by DECAST at their plant near Barrie, Ontario. These girders, which will support the future bridge deck above, measure over 150 feet in length and weigh over 180,000 pounds making them some of the longest and heaviest girders ever built for a transportation infrastructure project in Ontario. Currently, the IPD team is installing four (4) girders per week and at the time of preparing this report there have been 24 girders installed.

Construction activities have also been focused on the completion of the two permanent piers that will support the steel main span section of the bridge. In addition, falsework piles have also been installed in the river to provide temporary support for erection of the main span. More details on this work are provided in Project Upcoming Activities (see below).

The IPD team continues to update the project website <https://thirdcrossing.cityofkingston.ca/> with a number of photographs and drone videos that show the construction progress on-site.

D. Communications and Public Engagement

Below are some highlights and statistics of the public engagement and communication initiatives during January and February of 2021:

- Community e-newsletter - Two community e-newsletters have been issued to the 1,359 subscribers. The newsletter open rate averages 53 percent compared to other city e-newsletters that average 33 percent.
- Email correspondence with residents - The dedicated email address (thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca) has received 103 emails over January and February compared to a total of 338 emails that were received for all of 2020.
- Project website - Traffic to the website remains steady with over 17,300 visits to the website in 2021. Top page views continue to be the 'Home' page, the 'Photos and Video' page and the 'About the Bridge' page. In 2020 there was a total of 50,721 page views which was an increase of over 100 percent from 2019.
- Social media - Using the hashtag #ThirdCrossing, analytics for the project are tracked to ensure targeted messaging reaches and is shared by the Kingston community. For January and February 2021, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram engagement (shares, likes and comments) has been high with 13,225 compared to total engagements for 2020 at 46,694. Other social media analytics are 383 shares on Facebook, 196 likes on Twitter and 585 likes on Third Crossing content on Instagram.
- Videos - Videos profiling the project are released on the City of Kingston's YouTube channel on the Third Crossing playlist, which has 21 videos. In 2021, two videos have

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been released with a total of 3,194 views. Project videos can be found on our [project website](#).

- Media articles and interviews - In January and February there have been 35 articles about the project and 10 interview requests with topics ranging from the arrival of concrete girders, to the launch of public engagement for the Point St. Mark Drive intersection design.

Engagement on Point St. Mark Drive and Gore Road Intersection (South Leg)

The IPD team released the final design for the east side intersection, which restricts vehicle access to prevent motorists from short-cutting through the Point St. Mark neighbourhood and includes new active transportation infrastructure for cyclists, pedestrians, transit users and multi-modal travellers. The project team engaged residents through a three-phased approach.

Phase 1 (August 7, 2020 to August 21, 2020):

- A 3-question informal poll was issued through the project community e-newsletter to gauge sentiment on keeping the intersection permanently open, permanently closed or one-way out only.
- The Project Team received a healthy number of responses. The results were conclusive and provided the City good direction in preparing the design of the intersection that will restrict vehicular access to provide a right turn only onto Gore Road.
- In total there were 210 responses (52% identified as living in the Point St. Mark neighbourhood, 40% identified as not living in the Point St. Mark neighbourhood and 8% preferred not to say).
- In terms of the question asking how residents would like to permanently see the intersection, the following responses were received:
 - 39% said they want to open the south leg of the intersection to allow right turns only onto Gore Road;
 - 31% want the entrance into Gore Road permanently closed;
 - 22% want the south leg permanently open; and
 - 9% are not sure.
- A total of 71 comments were received that were categorized into the following six themes: vehicle access and road design (includes options for permanently open and permanently closed), right-out only, safety, cycling/pedestrian/transit, environment and other.
- Full responses to comments received from Phase 1 are in the document "[Comments and summary on Point St. Mark Dr. and Gore Rd. engagement](#)".

Phase 2 (August 21, 2020 to end of 2020):

- Three meetings were held with Emergency Service Providers in Kingston to gather feedback and input on the draft design and final design of the intersection.

Phase 3 (February 3, 2021 to February 23, 2021):

- The final design was presented on the [City's engagement platform](#). Throughout the three-week period, there were more than 1,800 visits to the webpage where the final design

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was located. A total of 602 participants downloaded the design and there were 15 questions/comments asked of the Project Team.

- The project team received nine comments via email through the Third Crossing inbox and through personal emails relating to the final design of Point St. Mark Drive and Gore Road intersection.
- To view all the questions and answers during Phase 3 engagement visit the [Point St. Mark Dr. and Gore Road engagement page on the City's engagement platform.](#)

Naming Consultation

Kingston City Council committed through [Report Number 20-159](#) to naming what is now called 'the Third Crossing' in a way that reflects and celebrates the stories and contributions of Indigenous communities in this region, both past and present. The consultation process on the naming is the responsibility of the City of Kingston and is being facilitated with the support of First People's Group. The naming consultation will begin with discussions with Indigenous Nations with historical ties to the area, including Alderville First Nation and Tyendinaga Mohawk Council, as well as with interested members of the local Indigenous community. This will be followed by a broader consultation with Kingston residents around proposed names and their meanings. Community input will then be brought back to the Indigenous consultation participants and a name will be selected to be brought forward for affirmation through a report to Council.

Schedule of Engagement and Activities:

- Step 1: (February - March) Inform public on naming campaign and opportunities to share input.
- Step 2: (February - May) Consultations with Indigenous Nations with historical ties to the area, including Alderville First Nation and Tyendinaga Mohawk Council, as well as with interested members of the local Indigenous community. Consensus will be reached on naming themes or concepts as well as a short list of potential names.
- Step 3: (June - Aug) Engagement with public.
 - Education programming on the meaning and origins of the potential names.
 - Engage and gather input on naming themes, concepts and potential names.
- Step 4: (September - October) Reconvene with Indigenous Nations with historical ties to the area, including Alderville First Nation and Tyendinaga Mohawk Council, as well as with interested members of the local Indigenous community on feedback received through engagement with the public. Desired name will be confirmed.
- Step 5: (November - December) Inform Council.
 - Report back to Kingston City Council with the final recommendation for the name.
- Step 6: (December 2021 - 2022) Public announcement of name and continued community education around the name's meaning and origin.

Local Project Benefits

The IPD team continues to monitor local benefits from the Third Crossing construction including key performance measures such as hours of local workforce used and total dollar value of locally procured material and sub-contracts. As of February 2021, the IPD team has achieved the following:

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- Over \$7.2 million spent on locally sourced material and contracts.
- Over 49,000 hours of labour has been hired from less than 115 kilometres away from Kingston.
- Over 31,000 hours of local labour was secured from less than 40 kilometres away from Kingston.
- 68 contracts have been secured with local businesses.
- 25 staff have moved to Kingston to work on the project.
- More than \$4,000 in charitable donations have been given to local residents by the contractors (Kiewit, Hatch and Bauer).
- 56 community service hours have been offered by contractors.

E. Project Upcoming Activities

The second quarter of 2021 will continue to see construction work progress on several different components of the overall bridge. The completion of all the remaining pier caps is targeted to be completed this spring. This work will also support the continued placement of concrete girders throughout Q2 of 2021. The erection of the steel main span section of the bridge has just commenced with site operations being supported on the east shore of the Cataraqui River. Most of this work will occur during Q2 with completion targeted in early Q3. Fabrication and installation of the steel main span girders is being managed by Walters Group who is one of the project's major trade partners and are located in Hamilton, Ontario. Each of the four (4) main girders of the steel main span is made of twelve (12) separate sections that will be erected on site. All logistical aspects of this work, including any temporary impacts to the navigation channel, are being coordinated with all necessary stakeholders including Parks Canada and Transport Canada.

The project team will continue to work with near neighbouring residents on both the west and east shores to provide information regarding the planned work hours as construction work progresses.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

None

Notice Provisions:

None

Accessibility Considerations:

The design for the Third Crossing bridge and associated road works includes the provision of accessible sidewalks/pathway, street benches, para-ramps, pedestrian countdown devices and audible pedestrian traffic devices in conformance with the requirements of the provincial Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC) has appointed two project representatives for the Third Crossing and the project team will continue to provide updates to MAAC as required or upon request.

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Financial Considerations:

Table 1 provides a financial status update of the Third Crossing capital project as of December 31, 2020. The report reflects the approved budget of \$180 million together with total project to date actual expenditure information. The table provides a breakdown of budget and actuals to date, percentage complete and resulting variances as at the end of December 2020. With respect to the overall results, the table summarizes actuals and budget by phases and major work activities to date.

The financial information provided in this report is derived from the financial accounting records of the Corporation as of December 31, 2020. Expenditures (actuals and budget) are tracked using the City of Kingston's corporate financial management system - Microsoft Dynamics. The project team also has access to advanced technology project management software systems and tools as utilized by the contractor, which provides more detailed tracking and cost analysis functions.

To ensure that spending remains within approved budget parameters, staff regularly monitor and review budget variance information through internal cost monitoring and use of cost tracking tools. This allows for variances to be reviewed on a timely and frequent basis to apply any necessary corrective actions.

Overall, the Third Crossing capital project is at 51 percent spent as of December 31, 2020. Actuals to date are \$92 million as compared to the approved budget of \$180 million. Expenditures are tracking as expected based on the construction schedule. The IPD team continues to review and update construction costs and schedule forecasts and assess all opportunities for potential savings to offset against any potential budget impacts that may arise. Increases in design engineering fees over the original budget have been supported by the IPD team as an agreed upon investment in additional effort to review and optimize design elements that would translate into additional construction cost savings.

Relatively minor incremental costs due to COVID-19 continue to be incurred by the project. These additional costs include protection measures for workers, worksite cleaning and disinfection, and added measures to ensure physical/social distancing. The project team is continuing to forecast and work to mitigate any potential future costs with ongoing assessment of risk factors due to COVID-19.

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Table 1: Third Crossing Works in Process – December 31, 2020

Financial Performance	Actuals to Date (\$)	Approved Budget (\$)	Variance (\$)	% Spent
Expenditures:				
Validation phase fees	\$4,190,313	\$4,172,160	\$(18,153)	100%
Design engineering fees	\$11,030,584	\$10,852,852	\$(177,732)	102%
Planning & Project management	\$1,761,715	\$3,312,578	\$1,550,863	53%
Construction costs	\$74,949,880	\$161,662,410	\$86,712,530	46%
Total Expenditures	\$91,932,492	\$180,000,000	\$88,067,508	51%

Note: Validation phase fees include pre-design work, pre-planning, project management and early work activities. Validation phase fees are final and complete.

Note: Design engineering costs to date include design efforts for all advanced and main design packages.

Note: Planning & project management costs to date include salaries allocated to capital, communication costs, consulting/owner advisor fees and planning/preparation fees.

Note: Construction costs to date include site mobilization, site preparation, rough grading, utility relocation, permanent noise fencing, installation/maintenance of turbidity curtains, fish and turtle exclusion measures, bridge abutments, temporary rock causeway, temporary trestle bridge, fabrication of major bridge elements, bridge foundations and piers construction.

The capital project funding for the bridge is based on an equal contribution from the federal, provincial and municipal governments. The Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Kingston are each contributing \$60 million. Semi-annual reports are submitted to both the Federal and Provincial governments, as per the reporting obligations specified in the grant funding agreements. Grant claims continue to be processed and submitted by the Third Crossing project staff on a regular basis as the project work continues, and claim payments are being received from both levels of government. To date, \$35.2 million of payments have been received.

Contacts:

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

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Nicole MacKinnon, Financial Analyst, Financial Services

Marie Bartlett, Communications Officer, Communications & Customer Experience

Ian Semple, Director, Transportation Services

Colin Wiginton, Cultural Director, Cultural Services

Exhibits Attached:

None