



**City of Kingston
Information Report to Council
Report Number 21-224**

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: September 21, 2021
Subject: Third Crossing – Quarterly Update Q3 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 Q3 of 2021.

This report provides an update to Council on major work activities that have been completed since June 2021, 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 through the final quarter of 2021.

Approximately 67 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

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

Not required

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

The Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) team has completed all the main design packages for the bridge and roadworks. Through Q3 of 2021 the design team has been focused on the completion of the site restoration and landscaping elements for the east shore of the Cataraqui River to support commencement of this construction work later this year. Design efforts will now shift to the west shore to prepare site restoration and landscaping plans for this area. In addition, on-going design adjustments continue to be proposed and evaluated by the IPD team to further optimize construction efficiencies as the overall project works proceed.

B. Permits and Approvals

Regular environmental compliance monitoring together with weekly reports continue to be submitted to federal agencies including Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Transport Canada. These reports provide detailed inspections and monitoring of the on-site turbidity curtains, turtle fencing and wildlife eco-passages.

The IPD team has continued to undertake repairs and replacement of sections of the turbidity curtains with damage to the styrofoam floats that support the turbidity curtains. The project team continues to dedicate a crew to inspecting and repairing damaged sections of curtains. In addition, the crew is regularly monitoring shoreline areas upstream and downstream of the project site to rapidly respond to and cleanup any styrofoam observed. Efforts are currently underway to replace the styrofoam floats with a rigid material that will resist damage.

The IPD team continues 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. Plans for the provision of new open water area for the creation of new fish habitat have largely been concluded with both Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Parks Canada. Efforts will now shift to plans for the removal of temporary works including the trestle and rock causeway with this work anticipated to commence in early 2022.

C. Construction Activities

The IPD team has achieved some significant project milestones during Q3 of 2021.

Walters Group is one of the trade partners for the IPD team who are responsible for the fabrication and erection of the steel main span portion of the Third Crossing. This work was completed in late June 2021 with the successful assembly of the last of the 48 steel sections that make up the main span of the bridge and the removal of temporary support works through July 2021.

ABF Reinforcing Steel is one of the main project subcontractors who are responsible for the completion of the bridge pier caps. This work was completed in July 2021 with all 21 of pier caps successfully installed.

DECAST is also one of the main project subcontractors who are responsible for the fabrication of the reinforced concrete girders for the approach spans of the bridge. This work was recently

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completed with the successful installation of the last of the 95 concrete girders installed by Kiewit in late August 2021.

D. Communications and Public Engagement

Below are some highlights and analytics of the public engagement and communication initiatives from January to July 2021:

- Community e-newsletter - The number of subscribers continues to grow monthly, with a total now of 1,456 subscribers. Seven newsletters have been issued since January 2021, and the e-newsletter open rate continues to be one of the highest for the City at an average of 52%. The project drone videos and engagement pages are the most popular opens. All previous e-newsletters can be found on the project website at: <https://thirdcrossing.cityofkingston.ca/engagement/past-engagement>.
- Media Articles and Interviews - The project receives a fair amount of media coverage on all aspects of the project. Since January 2021 there have been almost 50 articles covering many aspects of the project, including engagement opportunities, the naming campaign and construction milestones. In order to facilitate news coverage, the team has responded to 42 interview requests which have been conducted so far in 2021.
- Email Correspondence with Residents - The dedicated email address (thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca) continues to be a main connector for residents to the project team. Between January 2021 and the end of July 2021 the project team has received 355 emails from residents.
- School Virtual Presentations - Since January 2021, ten different schools in Kingston have participated in the virtual presentations and over 1,100 students have had the opportunity to ask questions about the Third Crossing as it relates to their studies in structures, geography, environment and design.
- Project Website - Residents are finding and visiting the project website more frequently. So far in 2021, total page views are at 46,569. Top visited pages are the home page, the photo gallery and video page, and the bridge page.
- Social Media - Using the hashtag #ThirdCrossing, analytics are tracked for the project to ensure targeted messaging reaches and is shared by the Kingston community. Since January 2021 until the end of July, social media use continues to grow compared to this time last year with total engagements (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram engagement shares, likes and comments) at 37,929.
- Videos - Videos detailing construction progress are released on the City of Kingston's YouTube channel and on the Third Crossing website. This year seven videos have been released documenting the building of the project. In total, the videos have had 9,970 views and since 2016 there have been 26 videos with 43,269 views.

Naming Consultation

In [July 2020, Kingston City Council](#) committed 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 Peoples Group. The naming consultation has five key steps as part of the consultation and engagement.

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Currently, consultations with Indigenous Nations with historical ties to the area as well as with interested members of the local Indigenous community are in process. The last and sixth virtual meeting was held on July 29th where a consensus was reached on naming themes and concepts as well as on short list of potential names.

The next step is engaging with the public in the fall of 2021. The shortlist of names will be released, highlighting the intention, history and meaning of each name. Opportunities for public education and input will be available and shared on the City's Get Involved Kingston public engagement website.

Following that, the team will reconvene with Indigenous Nations with historical ties to the area as well as with interested members of the local Indigenous community on feedback received through engagement with the public. The preferred name will then be confirmed and then presented to Mayor and Council for affirmation and then announced to the public. Follow the campaign and learn about upcoming meetings on our [website](#).

East Shore Landscaping and Site Restoration Engagement

On August 18, 2021, the team released the final design for the east-shore landscaping and site restoration for the Third Crossing. Residents were encouraged to review the designs and ask questions of the team on the [City's Get Involved Kingston engagement site](#). Engagement ran for three weeks until September 7th.

Technical considerations helped determine the final designs for elements, including roadway alignment and drainage, stormwater management pond location, Pittsburgh Library parking lot modification and surrounding utility infrastructure. Final design decisions were also guided by consultation with stakeholders and consultants, including an Indigenous ethnobotanist.

The final design elements are intended to:

- Enhance the city tree canopy by planting new trees. Species native to the area that are well-suited to the east shore existing woodland and that create additional biodiversity have been chosen.
- Offer new and enhanced accessible connections to promote active transportation and healthy living, including accessible sidewalks, cycle-tracks and pathways for use by pedestrians, cyclists and multi-modal users.
- Off-road paved and accessible pathways to connect segments of a future waterfront trail network.
- Restore and re-naturalize areas with low-maintenance vegetation to promote infiltration of rainfall run-off, reduce erosion of exposed soils and sediment in the Cataraqui River.

The IPD team is also planning future public engagement for the bridge and west shore where aspects of landscaping and site restoration, including opportunities for cultural heritage interpretation and public art, will be explored.

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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 July 2021, the IPD team has achieved the following:

- Over \$9.3 million spent on locally sourced material and contracts.
- Over 91,000 hours of labour has been hired from less than 115 kilometres away from Kingston.
- Over 55,000 hours of local labour was secured from less than 40 kilometres away from Kingston.
- 72 contracts have been secured with local businesses.
- 29 staff have moved to Kingston to work on the project.
- More than \$4,000 in charitable donations have been given to local causes by the contractors (Kiewit, Hatch and Bauer).
- 71 community service hours have been offered by contractors.

E. Project Upcoming Activities

The final quarter of 2021 will continue to see on-going construction work. With the completion of the entire bridge substructure (piers and girders) the IPD team will continue to focus on the bridge deck construction. This phase of the bridge construction will extend through to the spring of 2022 and involves a considerable amount of work to complete the entire bridge deck from the west side abutment to the east side abutment.

Road construction work will continue on the east shore lands with the intersection improvements on Gore Road at both Highway 15 and Point St. Mark Drive. This work will also extend into the spring of 2022.

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 project team recently met with an appointed representative from the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee to review the east shore site restoration and landscaping plans with a

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specific examination of the plans to construct an accessible pathway with accompanying rest areas that will meet the municipal Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) requirements.

Financial Considerations:

Table 1 provides a financial status update of the Third Crossing capital project as of July 31, 2021. 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 July 2021. 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 July 31, 2021. 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 the 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 65 percent spent as of July 31, 2021. Actuals to date are \$116.8 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 continue to be well supported by the IPD team as an agreed upon investment in additional effort to identify, evaluate and optimize all design elements that could 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 continued 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 these costs with ongoing assessment of risk factors due to COVID-19.

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Table 1: Third Crossing Works in Process – July 31, 2021

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	\$11,527,690	\$10,852,852	\$(674,838)	106%
Planning & Project management	\$1,977,929	\$3,312,578	\$1,334,649	60%
Construction costs	\$99,079,082	\$161,662,410	\$62,583,328	61%
Total Expenditures	\$116,775,014	\$180,000,000	\$63,224,986	65%

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 all design packages, design optimizations and on-site inspection.

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, utility relocations, permanent noise fencing, environmental protection measures, bridge abutments, temporary construction access, bridge foundations and piers construction, concrete approach spans, steel main span fabrication and installation, and shoreland road works.

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, \$56.55 million of payments has been received.

Contacts:

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Dan Franco, Projects Engineer, Major Projects Office

Scarlet Eyles, Manager of Financial Planning, Financial Services

Marie Bartlett, Communications Officer, Communications & Customer Experience

Jennifer Campbell, Director, Heritage Services

Colin Wiginton, Director, Arts & Culture Services

Exhibits Attached:

None