

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

QUARTERLY REPORT
SUMMER 2022



PONT INTERNATIONAL
**GORDIE
HOWE**
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

The Community Benefits Plan is a key component of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. With a commitment to transparent and accountable implementation, the project team is proud to report on Community Benefit Plan activities and accomplishments each quarter. For more information on Community Benefits Plan initiatives visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

NEIGHBOURHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT

The **Community Organization Investment (COI)** initiative is an annual **\$100,000 (CDN)** investment for organizations located in Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. Funding is used to support events, programming and/or infrastructure improvements.

The application period for the 2023 COI funding cycle will open later this fall. Further details, including eligibility requirements and the application form will be available on the project website at the end of November.

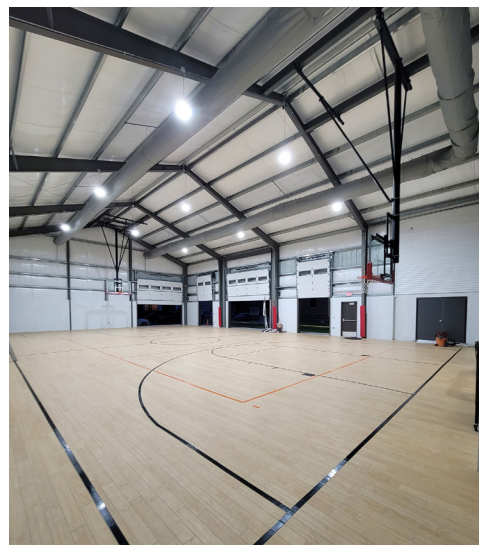
2021 COI PROJECT UPDATES

In June, **First Latin American Baptist Church** hosted the grand opening of their Victory Activity Center, an indoor recreation facility in Southwest Detroit. Partial funding helped to complete the building that will host organized athletic activities and other youth programming.

In August, the **Windsor Police Community Services Branch**, in partnership with **New Beginnings**, hosted the DiverCity Barbecue at Mic Mac Park in Sandwich. The community enjoyed a day of interactive games, cultural performances, informational booths, and a complementary BBQ.

A new accessible ramp was built to connect the rear parking lot of the **John McGivney Children's Centre** to the sidewalk leading to the accessible playground. The new "Bridge to Play McGivney" is anticipated to be well-used by staff and kids in the John McGivney School Authority, as well as members of the Sandwich community.

The new Victory Activity Center in Southwest Detroit provides an indoor recreation facility for basketball, indoor soccer, volleyball, aerobics and a food pantry.



2022 COI RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

In June, the project team hosted an in-person media event at the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** in Sandwich to announce the 2022 funding recipient organizations. Representatives from the nine funded organizations joined the celebration. Visit the project website for a full list of projects and recipient organizations funded in 2022.

Representatives of the nine organizations who received funding through the 2022 COI initiative and members of the project team gather as the projects were publicly announced in Sandwich.



We wish to acknowledge that the land in Canada where the Gordie Howe International Bridge project is being constructed sits on Anishinaabe Territory. The Anishinaabeg in the Windsor area are known as the Three Fires Confederacy which consists of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations. This land has also served as a place of refuge for the Huron/Wendat people.

OBSERVATION AREAS

Through consultation on Community Benefits, the communities closest to the project expressed a desire for the project team to invest in the creation of spaces where people can safely observe the construction of this once-in-a-generation project. The project team is working with the **City of Windsor** and **City of River Rouge** to create observation areas in both countries.

During the summer, the project team consulted with Windsor-area residents about accessibility of the Malden Park observation area. Survey results are under review to help inform the design of the viewing area. Construction on the observation area in Windsor is anticipated to begin in the coming months.

Construction continues on the Bridgeview Point project to create an observation area in River Rouge.



Site grading took place in the summer to prepare for construction of the observation area in River Rouge.

2022 COMMUNITY BENEFITS PROPOSALS

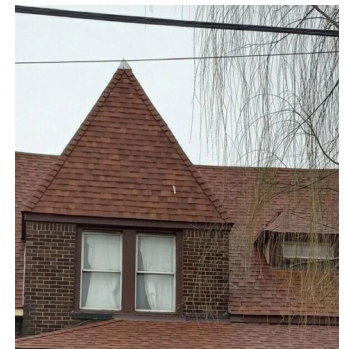
The project Community Benefits Plan includes the **Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy**, representing a **\$20 million (CDN)** investment in the local communities of Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit. All \$20 million of funding will be invested in the host communities before the end of the Design-Build period. Currently, approximately \$5.4 million (\$2.9 million in Canada and \$2.4 million in the US) is available to support the expansion of existing initiatives and the addition of new ones. Remaining funds will be allocated in the years prior to the end of the Design-Build period.

Earlier this fall, the project team requested feedback from community members and the public on several proposals under consideration for funding. The projects and organizations that are selected to receive Community Benefits Plan funding will be announced in early 2023.

DELRAY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Applications continue to be accepted for the **Delray Home Improvement Program**, a free home repair program for eligible residences in the area surrounding the Gordie Howe International Bridge's US Port of Entry. Eligible 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)**.

Since the start of construction in fall 2021, more than 45 homes have been repaired or are in process to receive repairs.



Workers replace the roof of a home in Delray as part of the Delray Home Improvement Program.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

The Community Benefits Plan includes commitments to engage elementary and secondary school students in classroom activities to raise awareness about the project and career paths in related industries, as well as engaging post-secondary students through lectures, presentations, research and co-operative learning opportunities.

Through the **Annual Research Partnership** initiative an engineering student from the University of Windsor conducted research on advanced tolling systems related to the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. The student completed their thesis using data and resources on potential tolling information systems and proposed lane configurations provided by WDBA's engineering team.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

CUMULATIVE TOTALS FROM
SEPTEMBER 2018 TO JUNE 2022

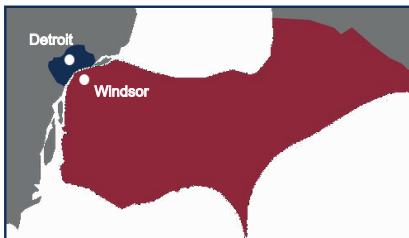
7135+

individuals oriented
to the project in
Canada and the US



43%

are local*



*“Local” is defined as being within the City of Detroit or within 100 kilometres of the City of Windsor



360+

pre-apprentices/apprentices
assigned to the project



225+

local* businesses
engaged on the project



As of June 30, 2022,

240+

co-operative learning
experiences have been
provided on the project

PARTNERING WITH THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW

The project team supports workforce development and training programs through identified delivery partners in Windsor and Detroit. As a result of these programs, local workers have an opportunity to develop skills needed for careers in the construction industry. A graduate of **Access For All** Apprenticeship Readiness’ Cohort 18 was sponsored by BNA as a Carpenter Apprentice and is currently working on the Michigan Interchange. Visit the project website for more information on how to work on the project with participating unions.



A local student learns about surveying on the Canadian POE.

UPCOMING

INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Continuation of the Delray Home Improvement Program
- Design of Sandwich Street Enhancements and Malden Park Observation Area
- Continued engagement with local education and workforce organizations
- Launch of Community Stories Committee in support of Windsor-Detroit Cross-River Tour
- City of Windsor upgrades to McKee Park in Sandwich
- Installation of new fitness equipment at Clark Park in Southwest Detroit by the City of Detroit
- Construction of the Belanger Park and Malden Park observation areas
- Local vendor and supplier events
- Meeting of the Trades-Specific Workforce Development Steering Committee
- Launch of the 2023 Community Organization Investment initiative
- Announcement of the new and expanded Community Benefits Plan initiatives

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Between **June 2022** and **September 2022**, the project team participated in:

- Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. tours of the Canadian bridge site
- Access for All Detroit Advisory Board Meeting
- Access for All's contractors' roundtable meeting and informational interviews with Cohort 18 students
- Detroit Economic Growth Corporation's 'Buy Detroit Marketplace Live' event
- Detroit Workforce of the Future tour of the US bridge site
- Michigan Minority Procurement Conference Business Opportunity Exchange
- Essex Region Conservation Authority's (ERCA) Sandwich Environmental Tour, Tree Identification Walk, Great Lakes Plastic Pollution and Local Action Workshop, and Citizen Science Tree Survey as part of the Triple Tree Impact Program
- Livernois 2 Clark Neighborhood Association Meeting



Community members attended ERCA's Tree Identification Walk in August 2022 at Mic Mac Park in Sandwich.

COMMUNITY OFFICES REOPEN

After closing due to COVID-19 in March 2020, the Sandwich and Southwest Detroit Community Offices have reopened for appointments with community members and other stakeholders. Appointments must be booked a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Follow the project social media channels or subscribe to the project newsletter for updates.

ABOUT COMMUNITY BENEFITS

On the Gordie Howe International Bridge project, **community benefits are identified opportunities that can advance economic, social or environmental conditions for local communities.** In developing the Community Benefits Plan, it was key that the initiatives selected for implementation would provide positive outcomes for the Windsor-Detroit region and specifically focus on enhancing the Sandwich and Delray communities, the neighbourhoods closest to the project area.

Community benefits initiatives are delivered by the project team, a collaboration between Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, Bridging North America and the State of Michigan.

The Community Benefits Plan is comprised of two components:



THE NEIGHBOURHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY focuses on collaborating with stakeholders and community members through consultation to develop a community betterments strategy based on priorities identified through public consultation, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.



THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGY is geared toward engaging businesses and individuals and focuses on supporting workforce, training and pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship opportunities.

THE GORDIE HOWE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PROJECT is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan region and includes features that make this project truly distinctive. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan.

The project consists of four components:



THE BRIDGE



CANADIAN PORT OF ENTRY



US PORT OF ENTRY



MICHIGAN INTERCHANGE

For more information about the progress of the Community Benefits Plan connect with us:



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