



# Project Status Report

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**Project Name:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Crossing – EA Report

**Department:** Engineering

**Period:** January 2011

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**Prepared By:**

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## PURPOSE

The Project Status Report is a document used as a means of formal monthly reporting on the status of a project to key project stakeholders.

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## A) Environmental Assessment Update

### Background

The overall EA project is progressing on schedule for completion of Stage 2 (phases 3 and 4) by November 2011.

On May 25, 2010, Council authorized that Stage 2 of the Third Crossing Environmental Assessment (EA) Study proceed. Stage 2 will complete the Third Crossing EA Study by building on the findings of the EA Stage 1 Summary Report that assessed the need for and the feasibility of implementing a third transportation crossing over the Cataraqui River. The EA Stage 1 Summary Report presented a number of river crossing options and recommended a bridge crossing at John Counter Boulevard and Gore Road as the preferred option.

Stage 2 activities involve fieldwork investigations by the project team at the preferred John Counter Boulevard-Gore Road corridor. For all the fieldwork activities noted below, plans have been prepared by the City's project team in accordance with Federal and Provincial guidelines. The plans have also been approved by the City of Kingston and Parks Canada.

Discipline	Fieldwork Description in Study Area
Geo-Environmental	Measuring Environmental characteristics.
Geo-Technical	Measures foundation characteristics in land/water.
Aquatic Ecological	Aquatic vegetation and fish sampling.
Terrestrial Ecological	Land vegetation and wildlife inventory.
Marine Archaeological	Marine/water based archaeological.
Terrestrial Archaeological	Based upon bridge location, land based arch.
Hydro-Technical	Water resource assessments.
Traffic Analysis	Intersection and adjacent community analysis.
First Nations	Discussions with First Nation communities.

### **Completed/Ongoing Works in January 2011:**

- TAC Meeting #8 was held on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Presentation and discussion materials covered:
  - 4 lane versus 2 lane considerations;
  - First Nations consultation update;
  - Draft bridge concept renderings;
  - In water construction techniques;
- TAC meeting provided an EA update to all members' discussions provided feedback and suggestions to be considered as the EA progresses.
- Public Liaison Committee meeting was held on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Presentation and discussion materials were consistent with TAC agenda. Communication schedule was discussed with PLC members and future communication strategies for 2011 were elaborated. Next PLC scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Public Information Center is scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup> from 6pm to 9pm. Coordination to occur in the next two months.
- Perform macro-modeling runs to identify, if any, any major intersections, adjacent communities, and origin/destination traffic patterns that should be considered at the microsim level. Modeling efforts for a base year without the bridge, and future years with a bridge implemented are being considered.
- Met with Alderville Mississauga First Nation Chief Marsden and reviewed preliminary Third Crossing design info, information received from TAC meeting and received initial comments.
- Continued discussions/interaction with Parks Canada regarding the project in terms of the "Heritage Values and Guiding Principles" Jan 2010 draft document to ensure conformity with UNESCO concerns with particular attention to natural heritage, archaeology, site-lines/view-scapes of the Rideau Canal and the Third Crossing.
- Discussed Parks Canada "Heritage Values and Guiding Principles" statement on First Nation consultation requirements and UNESCO conformity.
- Researched First Nations input to other recent EA projects with similar contexts.
- Completed communications plan for Stage 2 activities.

### **Work planned for February 2011:**

- Review reports documenting the stage 2 archaeology in the cultural meadow north of the Gore Road ROW and Stage 3 archaeology in the Gore Road ROW.
- Review property and ownership details to initiate discussions with owners of interest for the corridor structure on east and west banks.
- Preliminary sketch illustrating right of way layout on west shore has been reviewed and requires 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration in February.

- Progress discussions with CFB Kingston and potential strategies for Gore Road enhancements east of Hwy 15.
- Execute communications plan for Stage 2 activities.
- Review simulation modeling outcomes and progress traffic work plan.
- Progress discussions with Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs.
- Provide updates to and progress discussions with First Nation Communities and to gather input on sight lines, vegetation re-instatement guidance, etc.
- Continue to inform the public through the website and mailing lists as the project progresses with timely information releases.
- Progress discussions regarding the Gore Road Library lands and potential heritage aspects.
- Continue the bridge design concept from a structural and aesthetic viewpoint.
- Meet with Queen's University for discussion on bridge innovation techniques.
- Further refine "Heritage Values and Guiding Principles" draft document as related specifically to the Third Crossing.