EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This information report is to provide Council with an update on the progress of the Third Crossing of the Cataraqui River Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA process is being advanced in a two stage manner and will provide Council with an opportunity to make a decision to proceed further or not at a critical stage of the assessment.

At its January 20th, 2009 Council meeting, City Council approved the award of the Engineering Services Contract for the Environmental Assessment (EA) of the Third Crossing of the Cataraqui River to J.L. Richards and Associates.

Stage I of the EA, scheduled for completion in April 2010, will provide Council with a preferred crossing location option and preliminary cost estimates. Potential crossing corridors are illustrated in Exhibit A, attached to this report. The required field reports and studies have been completed. Public and First Nations consultations are ongoing.

Stage II will include geotechnical investigations as well as preliminary design and cost estimates. Phase II is slated for completion in November 2011.

The Stage I Report will be presented to Council in April, 2010 at which time Council will be asked to make a decision based on the Stage I EA’s findings.

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is for information purposes only.
AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER**

Denis Leger, Commissioner, Corporate Services

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner</th>
<th>Department/Service</th>
<th>Consultation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner Beach, Sustainability &amp; Growth</td>
<td>N/R</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commissioner Thurston, Community Development Services</td>
<td>N/R</td>
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<td>Commissioner Leger, Corporate Services</td>
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<td>Jim Keech, President, Utilities Kingston</td>
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(N/R indicates consultation not required)
OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

Background
The City of Kingston has experienced significant growth over the past 25 years. The need for a third crossing of the Cataraqui River and the Rideau Canal, between the LaSalle Causeway and Highway 401, has been recognized in several studies dating back to the 1960s; however the proposed location of the crossing varied.

To develop a guide for growth, City Councils have commissioned several studies over the last number of years:

- In 1978 a City transportation study defined a link between Gore Road and Elliott Avenue as the preferred location;
- In 1992, a third crossing concept was introduced into the Official Plans of both the City and the former Pittsburgh Township;
- The City’s 1992 “Bridge Crossings for the Great Cataraqui River Transportation Study’ identified the need for a “Third Crossing” as the Causeway was operating at full capacity;
- The Urban Growth Strategy (UGS) completed in 2003 flagged the absence of a third crossing as a major weakness in the transportation network and an impediment to growth and development and delivery of municipal services;
- The Kingston Transportation Master Plan (KTMP) was completed in June 2004. The KTMP confirmed the need for a third crossing.

All of the above noted studies highlighted the need for a Third Crossing.

To advance the Third Crossing process, responses to a Request For Proposals for the Environmental Assessment of the Third Crossing were received on November 12, 2008. Based on appropriate evaluation criteria, staff recommended that J.L. Richards and Associates be awarded the Engineering Services contract for the EA. Council, at its meeting of January 20th, 2009, passed the following motion:

**THAT** Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign an engineering services contract with J.L. Richards/Associated Engineering Joint Venture for the Environmental Assessment of the Third Crossing of the Cataraqui River at their total upset limit price of $1,381,610 plus GST, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services, with the clear understanding that the only spending is $550,000 for completion of the Stage One Environmental Assessment; and

**THAT** Council approve a 2009 Capital Budget amount for Phase 2 in the amount of $950,000 to be funded $475,000 from development charges and $475,000 from the municipal capital reserve fund, with the understanding that these funds will not be expended if Council decides not to go forward with the project after the completion of the Stage One Environmental Assessment.

The EA includes but is not limited to the following:

- Evaluating and developing concepts of crossing locations and structure alternatives recognizing the heritage nature of the site. Potential crossing corridors are illustrated in Exhibit A attached to this report.
- Examination of potential impacts of each alternative on the heritage resource, cultural resource, visual aesthetics, natural environment, the Canal’s status as a world heritage and national historic site, and ecological values.
- Selection of preferred alternative.
- Special Consultation with First Nations people
- Preparation of Architectural, Landscape and preliminary design and drawings of the preferred alternative including sufficient field surveys and geotechnical investigations to ensure design feasibility and compliance with Parks Canada Aesthetic Guidelines and other governing authorities.
- Detailed cost estimate with life cycle costing for maintenance and replacement of the preferred alternative.
- Update traffic contained in the Kingston Master Transportation completed in 2003.
• Social and economic benefits and advantages to the City of Kingston.
• Installation of new water main suspended from bridge structures.

Project Organization

Project Team
The Project Team consists of J.L. Richards and Associates and their supporting sub-consultants assisted by Real Estate & Construction Services staff.

Three committees have been formed to support the project:

Project Management Committee (PMC)
The PMC is comprised of the Commissioner of Corporate Services, the Director of Real Estate & Construction Services (RCS), other RCS staff, Finance, Engineering, and supported by the consultant, J.L. Richards & Associates. The PMC’s mandate is to review and approve change orders, review status reports, project schedules and risk management, budget and quality control reports, and provide recommendations to Council. The PMC meets on a quarterly basis.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
The role of the TAC is to guide and assist the Project Team with identifying approval requirements, developing evaluation criteria and identifying the preferred crossing options. The TAC includes City staff and representatives from the Cataracqua Region Conservation Authority, Parks Canada, Ministry of the Environment, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, CFB Kingston, Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Ministry of Transportation, Transport Canada and Ministry of Natural Resources. To date, the TAC has met four times.

Public Liaison Committee (PLC)
Thirteen applications were received from interested parties to sit on the PLC. Eight members of the general public were selected by the PMC to sit on the PLC. Their first meeting was in June. The PLC provides input on consultation activities to ensure that community information needs are met and provides a strong link between the City, the consulting team and residents. The PLC will meet approximately 10 times during the EA.

Stakeholders
Key stakeholders for this project include:
• Appropriate First Nations communities
• City of Kingston – Operations, Engineering, Parks (Landscaping) and Cultural & Heritage Departments
• Local Heritage organizations
• Utilities Kingston – hydro, gas, water main, sanitary sewer, fibre optics cable
• Kingston Transit
• Cataracqua Region Conservation Authority
• Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans
• Parks Canada
• Federal Department of Transport
• Canadian Coast Guard
• Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
• Ontario Ministry of Environment
• Ontario Ministry of Culture and Tourism
• Ontario Ministry of Transportation
• Department of National Defense
• Abutting property owners and ratepayer associations
Works Completed To Date

- Environmental Scan
- Formation of a Project Management Committee (PMC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Public Liaison Committee (PLC)
- Mission Statement, Vision, Values
- Risk Management Plan
- Communications Plan
- One Public Open House
- Boat Tour of the study area for PLC members and City Staff
- Cataraqui Crossing Café
- Nine Agency Reports

Consultation Process

A Parks Canada Heritage Values Workshop was held November 23rd and 24th to develop world heritage values criteria to be considered in evaluating crossing options.

In March 2009, initial contact was made to applicable First Nations groups through the mailing of an EA information package. Staff have made preliminary follow-up through on-going meetings.

Public consultation is a key element of the EA process. A Public Consultation Plan was developed to ensure that the community has many opportunities to be involved in and comment on the Environmental Assessment. The Public Liaison Committee was formed and to date, the City has held one public open house and held a Cataraqui Crossing Café. A second open house is scheduled for February. Reports on both the open house and Café are available on the City’s website and through Real Estate & Construction Services.

J.L. Richards interviewed City staff and elected officials, local residents, local advisory committees, environmental groups, the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority and business groups. They also toured the site to assess the study area and adjacent residential neighbourhoods and local businesses.

The City’s Third Crossing web page is updated regularly as part of our commitment to keep citizens up-to-date. Citizens can enter their names and email addresses to be included on a distribution list for periodic updates and notices of public consultation. There are over 100 names on the list.

Outside Agency Reports

J.L. Richards commissioned various outside agencies to conduct field reports within their areas of specialty. The reports listed below are available on the City’s website and through Real Estate & Construction Services.

1. Preliminary Constraints Analysis; Mary Alice Snetsinger, Ecological Services
   *Offers an overview of the available natural heritage information regarding the EA study area (Oct. 2009)*

2. Archaeological Assessment (Stage 1) Executive Summary; Nicholas R. Adams, Adams Heritage
   *Executive Summary of the reports that identifies known and potential archaeological resources in the EA study area (Oct. 2009)*

3. Existing Transportation Conditions; Associated Engineering
   *Summarizes key current and planned transportation networks in the EA study area. (Oct. 2009)*
4. Fisheries Background Review; Bowfin Environmental Consulting Ltd.
   A review of the aquatic aspects (submergent plants, fish and fish habitat and freshwater mussels) of the EA study area
   (Oct. 2009)

5. Landscape Analysis, Background Report; Corush Sunderland Wright Limited
   Describes the EA study area's cycling connections, paths and trails, protect views and landscape character as they
   relate to the planning framework for each of the possible planning corridors. (Oct. 2009)

6. Background Research, Underwater Archaeological Assessment; Scarlet Janusas, Archaeological and Heritage
   Consulting and Education.
   Executive Summary of the Stage 1 underwater archaeological resource assessment of the EA study area. (Oct. 2009)

7. Summary of Environmental Planning Stage 1; Golder Associates
   A desktop review of existing available environmental information to identify potential issues of environmental concern.
   (Oct. 2009)

8. Preliminary Geotechnical Considerations; Golder Associates
   An overview of the geotechnical considerations regarding the EA study area. (Oct. 2009)

9. Heritage Properties Survey; Laurie J. Smith, Heritage Consultant
   Provides information on heritage properties with the EA study area that have been identified by a government authority
   as having cultural heritage value. (Oct. 2009)

Next Steps
Tentatively, a report recommending the preferred option for the third crossing will be presented to Council on April 20th
along with a staff briefing. Should Council decide to proceed, J.L. Richards will commence work on the balance of the EA, being
Stage II. The objective is to complete an Environmental Assessment and a preliminary design of a Third Crossing including
footings and foundations complete with a breakdown of quantities and cost estimates, which will show regard for Environmental,
First Nations, Cultural, Heritage, Navigational, Architectural Aesthetics, Geotechnical, and Landscape issues. The final
approval of the EA will allow the City to; proceed with final design, seek provincial and federal funding and investigate sources
of financing and construction partnership options.

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW: N/A

NOTICE PROVISIONS: N/A

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

City Council approved $550,000 for Stage I of the Environmental Assessment. Council further approved an additional $950,000
for Stage II, to be funded $475,000 from development charges and $475,000 from the municipal capital reserve fund 2009. If
Council decides not to proceed further at their April, 2010 Council meeting, these funds will not be expended.

Although the cost of a crossing will not be known until the completion of the entire EA, it is clear that the City would require
major contributions from both the Federal and Provincial governments to fund the crossing.
CONTACTS:
Speros Kanellos, Director, Real Estate & Construction Services 613-546-4291 ext. 3133
John Sawarna, Project Manager, Real Estate & Construction Services 613-546-4291 ext. 3169

OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:
Alan McLeod, Senior Legal Counsel
Mark Van Buren, Director, Engineering Division
Stephen Dickey, Manager, Accounting Services, Financial Services

EXHIBITS ATTACHED:
Exhibit A Map of Potential Crossing Corridors