

## Design Features at St. Clair Avenue and Betts Avenue

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway provides more than 300 acres of green space with landscaped areas, a multi-use trail, pedestrian bridges and tunnels, and noise barriers. All of these features will work together to showcase how large-scale infrastructure and public uses can co-exist with natural habitat while considering the perspectives of drivers and adjacent residents.

In meetings held over 2011 to now, we heard many comments from your neighbourhood with respect to the final landscape design, including trails, and the location and types of noise walls. Based on this input, we have made a number of changes in your area. These changes include:

- screening landscape and trees to be planted behind St. Clair Avenue
- sidewalk extension along west side of Sandwich West Parkway from Highway 3 to Heritage Drive
- secondary multi-use trail connection between the north-west end of St. Clair Avenue to Heritage Drive.

The following table describes features of noise barriers and landscaping elements in proximity to St. Clair Avenue and Betts Avenue.

NOISE BARRIER			LANDSCAPING ELEMENTS	
Noise wall	Earth berm	Combination wall/berm	Pedestrian Bridge	Trails
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
<b>Location:</b> North side of Highway 3 between the Geraedts Tunnel (T-8) and Trail Bridge 5 <b>Height:</b> 4m	n/a	<b>Location:</b> West of St. Clair Avenue to south of Bridge 9 and Bridge 10 <b>Height:</b> 5m	n/a	<b>Type:</b> Primary Multi-use Trail (asphalt) <b>Width:</b> 4m <b>Location:</b> South of Highway 3 <b>Connections:</b> Huron Church Line (west), Sandwich West Parkway (east), Geraedts Drive (north)

### Landscaping

In summary, landscaping features depicted in this location include:

- mixed planting buffer with evergreens, trees, shrubs, and grasses in the screening landscape south of Bridge 9 and Bridge 10 beside the multi-use trail
- low growing grasses along the trail edge
- "Riparian zone" or wetland plantings along the storm ponds
- Oak Savannah grasses, tree planting, and shrubs along the trail towards the Villa Borgehese Tunnel (T-7)
- grassland with seasonal wildflowers and low growing grasses atop the Villa Borgehese Tunnel (T-7)
- mixed planting buffer with evergreens, trees, shrubs, and grasses in the screening landscapes along the asphalt trail.

### Permanent Features Design

The Environmental Assessment Report for the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study required aesthetic features of the Parkway be visible to drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and adjacent communities. This will occur through design in the form of

structures like noise barriers, retaining walls, tunnel top barrier walls and bridge barrier walls, and trail structures and amenities. The Carolinian Canada theme is integrated into the design elements of the Parkway and aesthetic treatments consistent with this theme have been applied to these structures.

In your neighbourhood, there will be a noise wall south of Highway 3 between the Geraedts Tunnel (T-8) and Trail Bridge 5. The noise wall will be the same colour on both sides. However each side will feature a different pattern. On the community side the panels will feature a natural stone pattern. Where space permits, trees and shrubs will be planted on the community side of the wall to enhance the overall aesthetic of the landscape. Also, in keeping with the Carolinian theme for the Parkway landscape, the noise walls will be a “yellow-brown” colour which is representative of prairie grassland. (At right, an artist rendering of the wall with planting and wall design inset. Size and panels will vary according to area.)



The Parkway multi-use trail system is linked with seven pedestrian trail bridges and two pedestrian tunnels that allow users to travel the length of the corridor without encountering a vehicle. Trail bridges are made of a steel truss and concrete abutment system that can commonly be found throughout Ontario. The steel truss system will be coated with a select colour palate. The bridges will vary in length dependent upon location and are designed to meet current accessibility and safety standards. Three themes – colour of the bridges, teaching and symbol – have been interpreted and then applied to the seven pedestrian bridges for cultural significance.

Wayfinding signs will be installed at one kilometre intervals and trail junctions along the primary multi-use trail to direct users to trail bridges, municipal roads, rest areas and nearby municipal parks and facilities. Interpretive signs will be located at select tunnel tops rest areas and some lay-bys along the trail where there are features of interest. Signage will include natural and cultural heritage themes about the Parkway, prairie restoration, settlement in Windsor-Essex, stormwater management, species at risk, First Nations history and teachings. Signboards with trail maps and information about the Parkway will be located at all rest areas.

## Who can I contact if I have a question or concern?

If you have any concerns regarding construction of the Parkway, please contact or visit the Windsor Essex Mobility Group's Public Liaison Office at 1-877-937-5929, 2187 Huron Church Road Suite 340, or [hgp-plo@wemg.ca](mailto:hgp-plo@wemg.ca).

Please visit [www.hgparkway.ca](http://www.hgparkway.ca) to learn more about the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway. Updates will be posted on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/hgparkway](https://www.twitter.com/hgparkway)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/hgparkway](https://www.facebook.com/hgparkway)) and photos and videos will be posted on Flickr ([www.flickr.com/hgparkway](https://www.flickr.com/hgparkway)) and YouTube ([www.youtube.com/hgparkway](https://www.youtube.com/hgparkway)).