

### Your Questions

On June 29, an eight kilometre portion of Highway 401 between North Talbot Road and E.C. Row Expressway opened to traffic. We wanted to answer some of your questions:

#### Why is the speed limit so low in the westbound lanes?

The 60 km/h speed limit between Huron Church Line and the exit ramp east of Labelle Street is a temporary speed limit. It was determined that for several reasons, including worker safety, that a speed transition was required. Once the work in this area is completed, the speed limit will be increased with the exit ramp speed remaining lower.

#### Why are trucks still using Highway 3?

There is a brief learning period while drivers get used to the new roadway exits and entry points. Also, trucks still make deliveries to locations in Windsor and may need to use Highway 3 to access these points. Finally, we've been told by several people that GPS systems still aren't recognizing the new Parkway.

#### Why do you open highways overnight?

Traffic volumes on roads are normally reduced overnight. As crews are required to remove or reposition barrels/jersey barriers and repaint the road lines, we normally open roads overnight when volumes are lower for worker safety. During the initial transition period overnight, the OPP is on site to assist and conduct a "rolling stop" to help lead traffic through the new configuration while crews work ahead of them.

## Highway 401 Opening

On June 29, 2015, a major milestone for the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway project was achieved with the opening of a portion of Highway 401. The eight kilometre section between North Talbot Road and E.C. Row Expressway was opened in the early morning hours with the assistance of the OPP.

Construction of the \$1.4 billion Parkway began in August 2011. The Parkway is composed of the six-lane below-grade Highway 401, the four-lane at-grade Highway 3, and a 20 kilometre trail system, set within 300 acres of greenspace. Extensive landscaping and unique trail elements are included in the Parkway design.



The Parkway includes 11 tunnels, 15 bridges, and a multi-lane roundabout. Over the last two years, several permanent features of the Parkway were opened as they were completed including the roundabout, several bridges, two tunnels and permanent sections of Highway 3.

Managing traffic during construction is one of the most challenging aspects of the project as thousands of vehicles, including 8,000-10,000 transport trucks, traverse the section of road each day. More than 25 kilometres of diversion roads north and south of the construction zone were built to keep traffic moving during construction.

Although a major milestone has been achieved, there is still more work to be done. Construction continues this summer and fall to complete the remaining portions of Highway 3, other sections of roadway connected to the Parkway, and the extensive trail system. Six of the seven pedestrian bridges have been installed with the remaining bridge to come later in July 2015.



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## Upcoming Work

Opening Highway 401 has allowed our crews to get back to finishing work on sections of Highway 3 and Ojibway Parkway. Drivers using Ojibway Parkway may have noticed a shift in traffic, paving through the middle of the roadway and a new intersection at Broadway Boulevard. We expect this work to continue into August with the four lanes reopened to traffic by the end of the month.

There is also a great deal of work happening on Highway 3 to complete the surface coat of asphalt paving, median work, install hydro poles and build the final permanent section of Highway 3. This work will require a number of closures over the next few months.

The first closure of Highway 3 began in July with the closure between Grand Marais Road West and Labelle Street. This section of road is the final permanent section of the Parkway under construction and required the opening of Highway 401 to be used as a detour route. This closure is expected to last until October for the road to be constructed. There will also be a closure of the intersection of Labelle and Bethlehem over the Labelle Tunnel.

Additional closures of Highway 3 began the week of July 20 with closures of westbound and eastbound lanes between the Cabana/Todd intersection and the Lambton/Grand Marais intersection. Additional closures throughout August will include Highway 3 between East of Huron Church Line and the Cabana/Todd intersections for paving work. All of our road closures are posted on our website ([www.hgparkway.ca](http://www.hgparkway.ca)) and on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/hgparkway](http://www.twitter.com/hgparkway)). Please visit these sites for the most up to date closure information.

## Parkway Pedestrian Bridges

There will be seven pedestrian bridges along the Parkway Trail. Six of the bridges are up, and the seventh one is scheduled to be installed at the end of July 2015. For more information on the colours, themes and a map of the exact locations please visit our website at [www.hgparkway.ca](http://www.hgparkway.ca).

Location: Bethlehem Avenue  
Length: 40m



Location: Lambton Road  
Length: 40m



Location: Cabana Road West  
Length: 40m



Location: Huron Church Line  
Length: 40m



Location: Cousineau Road  
Length: 60m



Location: Hearthwood Tunnel  
Length: 20m



To be installed at the end of July 2015:  
Location: Oliver Estates Tunnel  
Length: 60m

Did you know?

The pedestrian bridges are approximately 5.5m off the ground and are 4m wide. There are three coats of paint on each bridge. It took one day to install the 60m pedestrian bridge at Cousineau Road. The steel weight of a 60m bridge, including handrails, is roughly 170,000 lbs.

# People Profile

## Meet Some of the Team

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway is creating and supporting jobs across the region and helping to stimulate our local economy. Design and construction of the Parkway is also providing training for people in our community and creating unique partnerships.

### Q. What is your name and position?

A. My name is Mike Houle and I am the Project Manager for DBi Services. We have been contracted by the Windsor Essex Mobility Group for the next 15 years to maintain the Parkway.



### Q. Where are you from?

A. I was born and raised in Ottawa, Ontario, and have made Woodstock my residence for the last 16 years.

### Q. What type of work are you doing on the Parkway project?

A. DBi Services is responsible for maintaining all assets on the Parkway including signs, guiderails, pavement markings, road surfaces, vegetation, illumination, traffic signals, recreational trails, bridges and ditches. In the winter, we predominantly provide snow and ice control by plowing and salting as required to maintain a safe driving experience for motorists.

### Q. How long will you be working on the project?

A. My plan is to establish/build a strong team of individuals, provide them with all the necessary resources to provide excellent service to our client and the public. Once this is in place, my aspirations are to move on to another challenge.

### Q. When people find out that you are working on the Parkway project what do they typically say?

A. We receive mostly questions relating to when the entire Parkway will be complete and when will it eventually connect to the new bridge. We also have some interest in the final design and construction of the recreational trail system.

### Q. What has been the most rewarding part of your work on the project so far?

A. I started back in July 2014 as the only DBi person on the project and was tasked in building a team (3 managers and 10 staff). The most rewarding part of this project for me has been seeing the team grow, learn from each other and gain experience in highway maintenance.

### Q. Do you have anything else you would like our readers to know about your experience working on this project?

A. Everyone is aware of the challenges this project presented to all workers on the Project Team and should appreciate their efforts in providing a world-class infrastructure that will be enjoyed by Windsorites and travellers from all parts of North America for many years to come.

## More questions

### Why is the 401 “grooved”?

The grooving on the highway surface is called “tining” (like the tines on a fork) and is used on concrete pavement to provide friction on the road surface. There are two types of tining, longitudinal (used on the Parkway) and transverse (used on Highway 401 between Windsor and Tilbury).

### Q. Why are there exit signs in the tunnels? There’s no exit ramp near them.

Exit signs in the tunnels denote the distance to each end of the tunnel for safety purposes. If there is an incident in a tunnel, the signs provide information for drivers and emergency services. For drivers, the signs show which end of the tunnel they are closest to if an exit by foot is required. For emergency services, the signs help them understand where in the tunnel the incident is located so they are better able to respond.

Do you have a question? Send us an email at [detroit.river@ontario.ca](mailto:detroit.river@ontario.ca).

## Drivers View Videos

You can view these videos by scanning the QR code on your smartphone, or visiting our YouTube Channel [www.youtube.com/hgparkway](http://www.youtube.com/hgparkway).



The new Highway 401 portion of the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway headed westbound from North Talbot Road Bridge to Highway 3/Huron Church Road.



The new Highway 401 portion of the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway headed eastbound from east of Bethlehem Avenue to existing Highway 401 eastbound lanes.

## Who is DBi?

The Windsor Essex Mobility Group (WEMG) was contracted to design, build, finance, and maintain the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway. As the design and construction aspect of the project is nearing completion, the operations and maintenance (O&M) phase of the new Parkway infrastructure is beginning. WEMG is overseeing the O&M phase of the Parkway over the next 30 years and has retained DBi Services as the main provider. DBi Services will operate and maintain all Parkway features including roadways, lighting, landscaping, trails, drainage, seasonal maintenance, etc.

Now that the below-grade portion of Highway 401 has opened, DBi Services has begun operations. A direct line for the public to provide Highway 401 maintenance requests is now available by selecting menu option # 2 at 1-877-937-5929. Once construction is fully complete DBi will take on the maintenance for all Parkway features. Construction related questions and concerns are to be directed by selecting menu option # 3 for the Public Liaison Office at 1-877-937-5929.

## The Safety Village

Again this year the Parkway is proud to partner with the Children's Safety Village to present "Walk-in Wednesdays". There are free summer programs every Wednesday in July and August from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. Please visit [www.thesafetyvillage.com](http://www.thesafetyvillage.com) for more information.

## Canada South Science City

On Saturday, August 22 and Sunday August 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. admission is free at Canada South Science City courtesy of the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway team. Come and check out the Parkway exhibit located on the second floor, along with the many other exhibits Science City has to offer. We hope to see you and your family out for this great family event.

Science City is located at 930 Marion Avenue in Windsor and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.csciencecity.com](http://www.csciencecity.com).

## WDBA Email List and Social Media

Want to hear the latest news about the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA) and the Gordie Howe International Bridge? Visit [www.wdbridge.com](http://www.wdbridge.com) and join their email list. While visiting the site, check out the links to the WDBA's Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn sites. Follow, like and connect with the WDBA to be kept up-to-date on the project.

## Stay Safe

We'd like to remind everyone that the Parkway is still a construction zone and we ask that you be mindful of safety. Please stay off the trail system as it is not complete or ready for public use. The stormwater management ponds have high water levels and are not to be used for recreational activities. Be safe, and enjoy the rest of your summer.

# KID ZONE

## What can you see?

This construction photo was taken in the summer of 2014. Find a noise wall, crane, tunnel, bridge, excavator, dump truck, barrel, stormwater management pond, overhead sign, and a highway ramp.



For other fun crafts and activities visit [www.pinterest.com/hgparkway](http://www.pinterest.com/hgparkway).

- [www.hgparkway.ca](http://www.hgparkway.ca)
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- [www.pinterest.com/hgparkway](http://www.pinterest.com/hgparkway)
- [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

There are many ways to stay up-to-date

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