

## Construction - The Next Six Months

Since the Windsor-Essex Parkway construction started in August 2011, the Windsor Essex Mobility Group (WEMG) and Parkway Infrastructure Constructors (PIC) have been working on an aggressive schedule. To minimize the length of time that the Parkway takes to complete, construction will be ongoing simultaneously throughout the project area. We want to work as quickly as possible to complete construction so that residents and travellers can start realizing the Parkway's many benefits.

### Utility and Sewer Relocations

A major effort to relocate utilities has been underway since September and will continue over the next few months. The work is mainly being conducted by the utility companies with coordination from WEMG and PIC crews. This includes hydro, gas, sanitary sewer, cable television, water and phone lines. Temporary overhead utility lines are being built above the Parkway and alongside the existing Highway 3/Huron Church Road corridor. These temporary utilities will be relocated underground on the tunnel tops once construction of the tunnel structure is completed. You can expect to see work between Spring Garden Road and Cabana Road as well as work in several areas of LaSalle and Tecumseh.

The sanitary sewer between Spring Garden Road and Second Street is being constructed to remove the need for a sanitary sewer crossing of the below-grade freeway.

### Tunnels and Bridges

Construction of Bridges 7, 9, 10, 11 and 15 (see below for location details) and the Labelle, Hearthwood, Oliver Estates, and Villa Borghese Tunnels will begin shortly. Tunnel and bridge construction requires excavation of the roadbed to various depths and in some cases, as deep as nine metres. Pile driving for these structures will follow. Once the pile driving is complete, the structures can be built on top with the road being built inside the tunnels and on top of the bridge structures.

### Pile Driving

Tunnel and bridge construction also requires steel piles be driven in the ground down to bedrock for support. Pile driving is noisy and, in some instances, causes noise and vibration beyond the project limits. Pile driving will be limited to daytime hours and, to reduce impact to residents in adjacent areas, we are looking at limiting pile driving to no more than three or four weeks in one area at any one time.

Pile driving for the Parkway tunnels and bridges begins in December. The following schedule is currently expected:

December:	North Talbot Road Bridge (Bridge 15)
January:	Bridge 10 (west of St. Clair College)
February:	Bridge 9 (east of Huron Church Line) Villa Borghese Tunnel (Tunnel 7) Hearthwood Tunnel (Tunnel 10B) Oliver Estates Tunnel (Tunnel 11)
April:	Labelle Tunnel (Tunnel 2)
July:	Bridge 7 (Labelle Street and Lambton Road)

### Diversions

Four lanes of traffic – two in each direction - will be maintained along the Huron Church Road/Highway 3 corridor during core travelling hours throughout construction. Reductions to one lane in each direction will be required for certain operations during late night hours.

The use of temporary diversions (on-site temporary roads built to move traffic around construction activities) will assist in maintaining traffic flow. Road diversions will be built north and south of the existing Highway 3/Huron Church Road corridor between Howard Avenue and E.C. Row Expressway. The diversions will carry traffic while construction of the tunnels and bridges is underway.

Temporary traffic diversions will be constructed over the next eight months after the construction area is prepared through vegetation removal and topsoil stripping. The diversion locations are:

Diversion	Between	To connect	To allow
1	Bethlehem Ave and Lambton Rd	Spring Garden Rd and Lambton Rd	Construction of the Labelle Tunnel (T-2)
2	New Highway 3 to the East	New Highway 3 to the East	Construction of Grand Marais Tunnel (T-3) and Bridge B-7 (west of Grand Marais Rd)
3	New Highway 3 to the East	New Highway 3 to the East	Construction of Oakwood Tunnel (T-5) and Bridge B-8 (east of Pulford St)
4	New Highway 3	New Highway 3	Construction of Bridge B-9 (between Cabana Rd and Geraedts Rd) and Bridge B-10 (West of St. Clair College) and Todd/Cabana Tunnel (T-6)
5 and 7	New Highway 3	New Highway 3	Partial construction of Hearthwood Tunnel (T-10B) and construction of Oliver Estates Tunnel (T-11) and Bridge B-11 (west of Howard Ave).
6	New Highway 3	New Highway 3	Future construction of Bridge B-12
8	Huron Church Line to New Highway 3	Huron Church Line to New Highway 3	Villa Borghese Tunnel (T-7)

To stay up-to-date about Parkway traffic, we encourage you to watch for public notices printed in local papers, road signs, letters delivered to your mailbox, updates on [www.weparkway.ca](http://www.weparkway.ca) and updates on our twitter feed at [www.twitter.com/WEParkway](http://www.twitter.com/WEParkway).

## Drains and Stormwater Management

The next six months will see work on the temporary McKee Drain culvert and temporary diversion for the Basin Drain at the west end of the project limits. Work on the realignment of the Wolfe Drain will also begin on the north side of Highway 3 from Cousineau Road to Howard Avenue. Construction of four stormwater management ponds will also begin during the next six months.

## Highway 401 and Highway 3

Widening of Highway 401 that started on August 20, 2011, is now complete. The widening connects the previously widened section of Highway 401 and the new Parkway. The extension of Highway 401 between Highway 3 and Howard Avenue will begin during this six month period. Work at Highway 3 includes construction of the new Howard Avenue Diversion which will take traffic from Laurier Parkway to the new Highway 3/Highway 401.

The new service road alignment that will carry local traffic once the Parkway is complete will be called Highway 3. Crews will begin construction of Highway 3 on the east side of the project in LaSalle. Construction of the new roundabout on Highway 3 has been ongoing since October. During the next six months, Highway 3 will be realigned through the roundabout from the east end of the project to east of Howard Avenue.

## Ojibway/Malden/Matchette Area

Wick drain installation has been ongoing in the west end of the Parkway. Wick drains are man-made drainage paths to allow faster settling of certain types of soils and provide greater strength in areas where a significant amount of fill will be placed. Following a successful wick drain trial this fall, crews began installing the remaining wick drains for the freeway portion of the Parkway that will be incorporated with E.C. Row Expressway. Clearing and grubbing, granular placement and wick drain installation will continue over the next six months. Once the wick drains are installed, fill will be placed to build up embankments and the area will be ready for road construction and paving.

A closure of the ramp at Matchette Road and E.C. Row Expressway is proposed to allow for the installation of more wick drains. Should this closure take place, it could last two years with designated detour routes in effect. Consultation on this proposed closure is ongoing.