

Construction – The Next Six Months

Since construction of the Windsor-Essex Parkway began 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. The construction activities you will see over the next six months include:

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. 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 in 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.

Road Construction

Construction works will be ongoing throughout several sections of the realigned Highway 3. These activities will include excavation, placing of granular fill, and installation of storm sewers. It also includes required civil works for traffic signals, street lights, Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) and power supply throughout the entire corridor.

Excavation and Road Base

Various construction activities will require excavation including:

- excavation of Highway 401 east of Howard Avenue to the intersection with the existing Highway 3 (near the Highway 3 Bridge)
- excavation of Highway 3/Huron Church Road for the construction of tunnels and bridges
- excavation of Huron Church Road from Geraedts Drive to Cabana Road
- construction of the Grand Marais Drain
- embankments from Cabana Road to Ojibway Parkway.

Excess earth from excavation will be used to form the road base as appropriate at sites from Cabana Road to Ojibway Parkway and from Outer Drive to Geraedts Drive.

Tunnels and Bridges

Construction of Bridges 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and the Labelle, Hearthwood, Oliver Estates, and Villa Borghese Tunnels will begin shortly. Construction works for Bridge 15 (North Talbot Road Bridge) are already underway. Tunnel and bridge construction requires excavation of the roadway to various depths. In some cases, this can be 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 requires steel piles be driven in the ground down to bedrock for support. Pile driving can be noisy and may cause 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 to limit 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 began in December 2011. Over the next six months, it is anticipated that pile driving will begin on the following bridges and tunnels, in roughly the following order:

- Bridge 10 (west of St. Clair College)
- Bridge 9 (east of Huron Church Line)
- Villa Borghese Tunnel (Tunnel 7)
- Hearthwood Tunnel (Tunnel 10B)
- Oliver Estates Tunnel (Tunnel 11)
- Labelle Tunnel (Tunnel 2)
- Bridge 7 (Labelle Street and Lambton Road)
- Tunnel 1 (west of Huron Church Road).

Methods We Use To Communicate

If you have any concerns regarding construction of the Parkway, please contact or visit the Public Liaison Office at 1-877-937-5929, 2187 Huron Church Road Suite 340, or wep-plo@wemg.ca.

Please visit www.weparkway.ca to learn more about the Windsor-Essex Parkway. Updates will be posted on Twitter (www.twitter.com/WEParkway) and photos and videos will be posted on Flickr (www.flickr.com/weparkway) and YouTube (www.youtube.com/weparkway).