

Early Works and the Start of Construction

There is a lot to do before the start of construction this summer. Pre-construction activities (called “early works”) have begun and will continue over the next few months.

These early works include:

Utility relocation – Throughout the project limits, utility companies are working to relocate utilities away from the construction area.

Species at risk transplanting – Removal of species at risk plants began in April. These plants are being replanted in protected sites within the study area during the month of May. All workers in the project area received species at risk training, in accordance with the conditions of a permit issued by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

Installation of environmental protection measures – The installation of approximately 10 km of temporary snake fence barrier has been completed.

Building demolition – Reusable materials from the remaining buildings within the Parkway corridor will be salvaged and the buildings demolished and removed.

Ongoing engineering field work includes:

- complete surveying of the corridor
- geotechnical investigations, such as borehole drilling, to better understand the soil conditions
- environmental data collection and sampling to provide further information on existing environmental conditions.

What will be some of the first construction projects?

Advanced Fill and Wick Drain Installation - Man-made drainage paths will be constructed to allow faster settling of certain types of soils.

North Talbot Road Bridge – The North Talbot Road bridge will be replaced to accommodate widening of Highway 401.

Widening of Highway 401 – It is proposed to widen Highway 401 from four to six lanes by constructing one additional eastbound and one additional westbound lane.

Howard Avenue Diversion – A new permanent two-lane road will be constructed to connect Howard Avenue, Highway 401 and Highway 3.

Other works – New corridors and on-site diversions will be constructed to maintain mobility through and across the existing corridor.

Contacts:

For more information on the Windsor-Essex Parkway, visit www.weparkway.ca. Follow the project on Twitter at www.twitter.com/WEParkway. Look for #weparkway.

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Advanced Fill and Wick Drain Installation

Early works in the western end of the Parkway includes the installation of wick drains and fill.

What is a wick drain?

Wick drains are man-made drainage paths to allow faster settling of certain types of soils. They also provide greater strength in areas where a significant amount of fill will be placed. 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.

What is being constructed?

This advanced work includes the following:

- grading of the area
- placement of a sand and gravel filter drainage layer
- installation of the wick drain on embankments that will be higher than 3 metres
- installation of temporary drains and storm water management pond
- application of silty-clay fill.
 - The fill will be compacted and extra material will be temporarily placed on-top to promote further compaction (temporary surcharge).

The installation of the wick drains and fill may require temporary closure of Matchette Road and Malden Road. Information on proposed detour routes should closures be required will be shown at a future Public Information Open House. You will be informed about closures through public notices printed in local papers, road signs, letters to residents and updates on www.weparkway.ca.

Potential Effects	Proposed Mitigation
Additional truck traffic for the hauling of fill and granular materials.	Trucks will be required to use E.C. Row Expressway and Highway 3 rather than local roads for hauling to the extent possible.
Possible temporary closure of Matchette Road and Malden Road.	If closure is required, only one of the roads will be closed at a time.
Noise and dust disruption during construction.	Please see the "Construction Mitigation" fact sheet for additional information.
Settlement of the ground.	Settlement will mainly occur within the project area.
Exposed side slopes could result in windblown dust as well as drainage and erosion and sediment concerns.	Wick drain construction will include installation of temporary drainage features to manage surface water quality and quantity. Please see the "Construction Mitigation" fact sheet.
A number of species at risk were identified in this construction area.	All species at risk will be removed prior to construction.
Relocation and protection of existing utilities.	Coordination with utility companies and municipalities.

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