

The Windsor-Essex Parkway—Building the Right Solution Now

The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study team completed detailed technical studies on the five access road Practical Alternatives originally announced in March 2006 and the Parkway alternative presented in August 2007. Extensive consultation combined with the detailed technical studies and analysis, led to the identification of The Windsor-Essex Parkway as the best solution to meet community needs and study goals for the access road to a new Canadian inspection plaza and international bridge.

The DRIC study team has concluded that this is the solution that provides the best balance of benefits and impacts to meet the community objectives and transportation needs in this important trade corridor. The Windsor-Essex Parkway will be a below-grade, six-lane freeway with 11 tunnels and service roads. It allows long-distance international traffic to travel unimpeded by traffic signals to a new inspection plaza and river crossing while improving community linkages and providing extensive new trails, green space and other recreational opportunities. Trucks will be hidden from the view of homeowners, noise levels will be reduced, and overall air quality conditions will improve for Windsor-Essex residents.

The Windsor-Essex Parkway will be the most significant single highway investment made in Ontario history, with an estimated price tag of \$1.6 billion (2011 dollars). It is unprecedented in its community enhancement features for any highway, anywhere in Ontario. It will be designed using Ontario's high safety standards that have made this province's roads consistently among the safest in North America.

The Windsor-Essex Parkway:

- ✓ Includes at least 240 acres of parkland
- ✓ Has more than 20 km of recreational trails
- ✓ 11 tunnels covering 1.8km of freeway
- ✓ Takes trucks off local streets
- ✓ Includes new service roads
- ✓ Improves the movement of traffic to and from the border
- ✓ Reduces diesel emissions

The Windsor-Essex Parkway is a key component of a new border transportation system that will provide a direct route connecting Highway 401 in Windsor to Interstate 75 in Detroit.

The Windsor-Essex Parkway will create approximately 12,000 project-related jobs, with the majority in the Windsor-Essex region. This modern, state-of-the-art facility will support existing industry, attract new investment, bring new jobs and create business opportunities in Windsor-Essex, Ontario and all of Canada.

For more information on The Windsor-Essex Parkway visit www.weparkway.ca.