

**Detroit River International Crossing Study Chronology**

August 24, 2009

- 2000** A cross border traffic survey study was carried out by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), Transport Canada (TC), Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to collect origin-destination patterns of cross-border trips. (Summer)
- This survey information supported the development of baseline information for the subsequent Planning Need and Feasibility (PN/F) Study. (Summer)
- The initial meeting of TC, FHWA, MTO and MDOT led to the subsequent creation of the Canada-U.S.-Ontario-Michigan Border Transportation Partnership (the Partnership). (Fall)
- 2001** The Partnership principles document, outlining Purpose and Objectives of the Border Transportation Partnership was adopted. The Partnership formed for the purpose of improving the safe and efficient movement of people, goods and services across the U. S. /Canadian border at the Detroit River and St. Clair River, including improved connections to national, provincial and regional transportation systems, such as I-75 and Highway 401. (February)
- The announcement that the PN/F Study would be undertaken was made. (Spring)
- 2002-2003** The PN/F Study was carried out by the Partnership to establish a 30-year strategy for the transportation network in Southeastern Michigan-Southwestern Ontario, including consideration of future cross border transportation capacity.
- The PN/F Study included public consultation on both sides of the border.
- 2004** The PN/F Study was published. (January)
- The formal environmental assessment (EA) process was initiated in Canada with the development of the EA Terms of Reference (TOR). The TOR was approved by Ontario's Minister of the Environment on September 17, 2004.
- 2005** The Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study was formally launched in Canada and the United States by the Partnership. (January)
- 15 alternative river crossings, 13 alternative Canadian inspection plazas as well as alternative access routes connecting the inspection plaza to Highway 401 were identified by the DRIC study team (Illustrative Alternatives). (June)
- Through the analysis of the Illustrative Alternatives, an Area of Continued Analysis was identified. (November)

- 2006** The DRIC study team announced specific options for access roads, inspection plazas and river crossings within the Area of Continued Analysis (Practical Alternatives). (March)
- Preliminary results of the analysis of the Practical Alternatives were presented to the public. (December)
- 2007** Technical studies of all environmental and engineering factors continued for the river crossing, plaza, and access road options. This work provided the information necessary for the study team and the public to understand the benefits and impacts associated with each of the Practical Alternatives.
- Based on public consultation and technical studies, a Parkway alternative for the access road was developed by the DRIC study team, presented to the public for feedback and was carried forward for further technical studies. (August)
- 2008** An improved Parkway alternative, “The Windsor-Essex Parkway,” was identified as the Technically and Environmentally Preferred Alternative (TEPA) for the access road. (May)
- The DRIC study team presented the TEPA for the bridge (crossing X10) and plaza (B1) locations in west Windsor in an area known as Brighton Beach. (June)
- The Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) was filed on December 31, 2008, with the Ontario Minister of the Environment.
- 2009** MTO, in partnership with Infrastructure Ontario, released the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to interested bidders to construct The Windsor-Essex Parkway. (June)
- The Draft Federal Screening Report for the DRIC study was released for public review. (July)
- On August 19, 2009, the Ontario government approved the DRIC EA.
- On August 21, 2009, the DRIC EA received the required Order in Council (OIC).

Information on the Detroit River International Crossing study: [www.partnershipborderstudy.com](http://www.partnershipborderstudy.com).

Information on The Windsor-Essex Parkway: [www.weparkway.ca](http://www.weparkway.ca).