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2013 CAPITAL BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

F.G. Gardiner Expressway – Minimum Repair Costs

Background:

At its meeting on December 4, 2012, Budget Committee, in considering the Transportation Services proposed 2013 Capital Budget and 2013-2022 Capital Budget Plan for the rehabilitation of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway, approved Motion No. 37:

" Request the General Manager, Transportation Services to provide a briefing note on the minimum repairs and associated costs required to maintain the East end of the Gardiner for the period required to complete the Environmental Assessment on the removal of this portion of the Gardiner."

Environmental Assessment/Preparatory Works Timing:

- The Individual Environmental Assessment examining Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard reconfiguration was initiated in 2008 and the EA Terms of Reference was approved by City Council and the Ministry of the Environment in 2009. The EA study was started, but was placed on hold in 2011. Funds for the EA study were reallocated within the 2012 Waterfront Longterm Funding Plan.
- The best case scenario for completing the EA (as well as 30% schematic design and urban design guidelines) and obtaining Provincial approval would be in the range of 2.5 to 5 years. If there are no challenges, optimistically it will be at best 2.5 to 3 years. However, based on previous experience on projects of this complexity there could very well be objections and/or hearings whose outcomes will be decided by the Minister of the Environment which could extend EA timelines to 5 years.
- Once EA approval is obtained, and presuming it would include a plan to remove the elevated Gardiner east of Jarvis Street, preparatory works that would be required in advance of being able to remove the Gardiner from service include 2 years of detailed design, planning approvals and property acquisition and at least 1 year of modifying existing ramps and road connections, detour roads and other temporary works prior to start of actual demolition.

Given the above, the timeline for the Gardiner removal to begin would be 5 to 8 years.

Current Condition of the Gardiner East of Jarvis Street:

- Since 2008 when the City and Waterfront Toronto jointly initiated the Environmental Assessment process to examine reconfiguring the Gardiner, only emergency repairs have been undertaken in accordance with Council's July 2008 direction for deferral of total Gardiner rehabilitation east of Jarvis except for essential works.
- Emergency repairs have included:
 - Significant patching on the deck surface
 - Placing timber bracing under the deck in some locations to provide additional structural support and reduce the risk of localized deck failures
 - Closing of the eastbound curb lane east of the Jarvis Street on-ramp to allow for the placement of temporary street lights on the deck where the parapet wall can no longer support them
- If deck replacement in this section is deferred to permit EA resumption and completion, more extensive timber bracing would be required in 2013, as well as continued patching.
- To maintain the Gardiner east of Jarvis Street operational for at least 6 years without replacing the deck, it is expected to require \$30 Million to \$35 Million in timber bracing plus several millions of dollars in deck patching and parapet wall repair/replacement.
- The current bridge deck cannot be maintained in perpetuity. Significant delays beyond 6 years will translate into the current deck not being usable.

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Date: December 10, 2012