F.G. Gardiner Expressway Rehabilitation Project Dufferin Street to Strachan Avenue (Section 2) Board of Governors of Exhibition Place Meeting

December 4, 2023



Project Background

- The Gardiner Expressway has been in service for more than 60 years.
- Impacts of weather, salt and increasing traffic loads mean the expressway is approaching the end of its original service life.
- Implementation approach for the Strategic Rehabilitation Plan consists of six complex projects, adopted by City Council in 2016.
- Section 1, Jarvis to Cherry Streets, was completed in 2021.

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• A project update was last provided to the Board in December 2022.



GARDINER EAST EA

Section 2 Project Site



Project Scope & Status

- Section 2 includes replacement of the Superstructure (girders and deck) and rehabilitation of the Substructure (bents). This includes replacing 700 metres of concrete deck and girders.
- Parsons Inc. (Parsons) is the City's Owners Engineer & Technical Advisor for Section 2.
- A Design-Build contract has been awarded to Grascan Construction Limited following a two-stage procurement process consisting of a pre-qualification process and request for proposal.
- Design-Build is a project delivery and management approach where the contractor takes on more responsibility for the design phase, with the goal of accelerating construction and providing more opportunities for innovation.
- The Contractor is mobilizing to site as of November 2023.





Construction Schedule

- The following schedule is expected for Section 2 works:
 - Expected start:
 - Fall 2023: Mobilization to the site laydown area under the Gardiner
 - Fall 2023: Work on the underside of the Gardiner Expressway will start shortly after mobilization.
 - **Spring 2024:** Lane restrictions will be implemented on the Gardiner deck, and construction activities involving more intensive, noisy operations will start over the course of four years.
 - Expected end: mid-2027.



Construction at Exhibition Place

- Section 2 is adjacent to Exhibition Place, the location of over 1200 annual events.
- The City and Parsons worked collaboratively with Exhibition Place staff during the planning stages to identify event requirements and plan for staging of the work, including for major events such as:
 - Honda Indy
 - Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)
 - Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
 - Sporting Events (BMO Field, Coca-Cola Coliseum)
 - FIFA Soccer Tournament (in 2026)
- The contract includes different access restrictions during major events to provide event continuity with limited impacts such as providing alternative construction access routes and timing windows for site access under the Expressway.
- Construction on the deck will pause through the FIFA period from May to July 2026, and the expressway will be opened up to 3 lanes in each direction for the duration of the tournament.





Construction at Exhibition Place

- Lots 857, 858 and a portion of 854 will be utilized for staging (laydown areas) during construction activities.
- Pedestrian access at the Exhibition GO station will be maintained during construction with extra space provided under the Gardiner during major events. Close coordination will occur with Metrolinx.



Construction at Exhibition Place

- When structural works are underway over the TTC Exhibition Loop, shuttle bus services will operate in place of streetcars within the loop to provide continuous transit access to the existing station stop.
- Impacts to 509 and 511 streetcar service are expected to occur up to two (2) times per year between 2024 and 2027, for about 6 weeks at a time. During these times, a portion of the overhead streetcar wires will be taken down and then re-instated.
- Streetcar service will not be impacted during the CNE & 2026 FIFA event



Public Outreach

- There will be significant traffic impacts as well as noise and other construction-related impacts to the community.
- Project information will be communicated to the public in a variety of ways:
- Community and other stakeholders:
 - Virtual meetings.
 - Construction notices: prior to start and at significant milestones.
 - E-Newsletter.
- Exhibition Place:
 - Close coordination and provision for monthly update meetings with EP staff.
- Broader communications:
 - Implementation of comprehensive media relations and communications strategy.
- Project Website: <u>www.toronto.ca/gardinerS2</u>



Next Steps

- 1. Site mobilization by the Contractor (underway)
 - Fall 2023: Initial repairs to the underside of the Gardiner Expressway after mobilization.
 - **Spring 2024:** Lane restrictions will be implemented on the deck, and construction activities involving more intensive, noisy operations will start.
- 2. Undertake additional public outreach prior to main construction activities.
- 3. Continue to coordinate and provide updates to Exhibition Place staff during construction.



Thank you

