

# GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – JACQUES CARTIER BRIDGE

Major steel reinforcement work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge in 2017

MINUTES

Meeting held Tuesday, January 31, 2017 (7:00 p.m.) Centre St-Pierre, 1212 Rue Panet, Montreal, QC H2L 2Y7

## **Representatives present**

THE JACQUES CARTIER AND CHAMPLAIN BRIDGES INCORPORATED (JCCBI)

- + Catherine Tremblay, Senior Director, Construction and Operations
- + Manon Leroux, Director, Projects
- + Cyril Michaud, Director, Construction
- + Catherine De Buhan, Engineer, Construction
- + Julie Paquet, Director, Communications

CONSORTIUM WSP-CIMA+ (WSC)

- + Yannick Lafleur, Engineer, Site Supervisor
- + Yan Foisy-Desjardins, Engineer, Site Supervisor

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL (VdM)

- + Marthe Boucher, Head, Permits and Inspection Division
- + François Gosselin, Noise Control Technician, Permits and Inspection Division
- + Marie Noël-de-Tilly, Communications Officer, Borough of Ville-Marie

SPVM – POSTE DE QUARTIER CENTRE-SUD (SPVM)

+ Christophe Van Eyck, Officer, Poste de quartier 22

#### Meeting called to order

INTRODUCTION BY JULIE PAQUET

The moderator called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She explained that her role is to ensure that the meeting remains civil and cordial.

She explained the committee's mandate and the meeting goals: provide an update about the steel work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge (Montreal sector) and discuss issues related to work planned for 2017 and 2018.

The panelists introduced themselves to the organizing committee members and residents. The moderator went over the meeting agenda.

#### Steel work for 2017

PRESENTATION BY CATHERINE TREMBLAY, CATHERINE DE BUHAN, YANNICK LAFLEUR AND YAN FOISY-DESJARDINS

The reinforcement of the metal structure of the Jacques Cartier Bridge represents the largest steel contract in the bridge's history. It involves replacing the braces and reinforcing a number of structural steel components.

There is another active work site close by for the installation of the lighting systems for the Jacques Cartier Bridge illumination project.

The work is being done in Montreal (between Viger, De Lorimier, De Maisonneuve and Dorion) and includes removing metal rivets, performing temporary and permanent boltings, installing

scaffolding, installing steel plates, jacking the bridge, and painting certain sections. Preparatory work is always done during the day. Structural components are replaced during the evening, night and weekend (traffic lanes are closed above the work areas). A number of partial and complete bridge closures will be scheduled between now and the end of the work.

A noise mitigation measures campaign was implemented this summer ahead of the work. The results indicated a high average ambient noise level before the work started. A noise management program was then put in place with the following mitigation measures:

- + Heavy vehicle traffic restricted in residential sectors.
- + Installation of acoustic barriers, sound absorption panels and soundproofed shelters around sensitive areas.
- + Installation of two sound level meters near the work areas and ongoing monitoring of noise levels.
- + Use of tools with noise reducers.
- + Adjustments to the contractor's work methods.

30% of the Phase-1 work is complete. This work phase should finish in fall 2017. Phase 2 of the steel work will begin in 2018 and will continue until 2019 in an adjacent sector.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<b>Evelyne Déry:</b> What is the deadline for the work being done in winter 2017 (particularly work near Falardeau Street)?	<b>Catherine De Buhan (JCCBI):</b> Work in this sector should continue until the end of fall 2017. A second work phase further to the north will follow in 2018.
Véronique De Sève: Most condos near the site don't have air conditioning. When we have to open the windows in spring and summer, it's awful. I'm also surprised that this meeting is being held at this time. Why have one now?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> As for the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee, we have been talking about having one for a long time, but we wanted to make sure that it was well organized. Given the recent increase in the number of complaints, we decided to hold a meeting in January. I agree that we could have started the committee earlier. Today, our intent is to open a dialogue, move forward, and find solutions. We are putting a lot of effort into improving living conditions for residents near the site through various mitigation measures, but there is always a bit of trial and error in this process. We are continuing to concentrate work during the day and limit noisy activities at night.
Véronique De Sève: Will the work planned for fall 2017 be as noisy as it was last fall?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> Since the bridge has a maximum load limit, the number of workers on some sections of the bridge is limited, which means the work has to be spread throughout the sector. Small teams are working in multiple places at the same time so that we can finalize the work while preserving the bridge's structural integrity.
<b>Jacques Perret:</b> What was the original work deadline?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> Initially, the work for this phase was supposed to finish this summer. We are currently experiencing a delay at the construction site. However, the Jacques Cartier

## **Discussion period**

	Bridge reinforcement program will be spread out over several years.
	<b>Cyril Michaud (JCCBI):</b> We are currently in the first phase of the work. However, during the second phase, the site will gradually move away from the residential sector. The worst is currently ongoing until the fall, and then the work will move to the north.
Jacques Perret: The acoustic barriers that you installed around the towers have holes and they don't work. They don't really cut the noise. What are you going to do to solve the problem?	Yannick Lafleur (WSC): The white panels around the work towers aren't acoustic barriers; these panels are only meant to contain dust from sand blasting. Once the sand blasting is done, the panels may be drilled to let air pass through. However, inside the white panels, we've installed green acoustic barriers to muffle the sound of equipment and the work.
	<b>Cyril Michaud (JCCBI):</b> Acoustic barriers are installed around the areas where workers are removing rivets and working with jack hammers. We have shelters installed inside shelters. You can't see them, but I assure you they are there.
<b>Dominic Bastien:</b> Has the City planned to provide any kind of compensation for sector residents, given that our quality of life has been significantly reduced since the beginning of the work?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> The City isn't responsible for this work site; JCCBI is. We will definitely take note of your question, and this will be one of the issues that we analyze, but I can't make any promises for the moment.
<b>Dominic Bastien:</b> Last fall, you adjusted your schedules so that less work was done in the evening. Are you going to do the same thing in the spring?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> Last fall, the contractor was only active during one work shift; however, this spring, we will continue to have two work shifts. We have two options: we can have two work shifts and work 24 hours a day, or have a single work shift, but the work will take longer. We decided to finish the work as quickly as possible to minimize the impact on waterfront residents.
Véronique De Sève: Are you planning more closures on René-Lévesque and De Lorimier this spring or summer? You and the City had many closures in the sector last summer/fall, and this created a lot of traffic near our homes.	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> All our traffic closures and hindrances are planned with our transportation partners to minimize the impact on users and residents. This summer, we partially closed lanes on the bridge, which greatly affected traffic near the bridge, especially on the Montreal side. The City is also doing work in the sector at the same time. However, we have tried to optimize the work to improve the situation in this sector. This spring, other partial closures are planned, but we can make real-time adjustments to minimize the impact. Montreal is in a period of many simultaneous work sites, which means that traffic is heavier than normal. Due to the nature of the work, we have to complete the work right now.
Michèle Renaud: I moved to the neighbourhood recently and live on Fullum Street. I often walk on De	<b>Marthe Boucher (VdM):</b> We will review the nature of the work in this area and follow up with you.

Maisonneuve with my children. Right now, there is no sidewalk on this street near the gas station. This is dangerous. What are you going to do to improve the situation?	Christophe Van Eyck (SPVM): For several years, we've been affected a great deal in the borough of Ville-Marie, as many partners have been doing a lot of work in this territory. You mentioned De Maisonneuve: currently, there is a large construction site in this sector to create a bicycle path. This will be great when it's done, but for the moment, the work is causing a lot of inconvenience. This work by the City is going on at the same time as the work being done by JCCBI. Plus, for two years now, Hydro-Québec has been working on the power lines downtown. There is also work being done on the water system. We police officers have to deal with this every day. We're trying to do our best, but it can be hard. However, if you feel that there are safety issues at a construction site, please don't hesitate to call us or come see us at Poste de quartier 22.
Nicolas Haeck: We have recently noticed a number of gas or oil leaks near our properties, on Tansley Street. Is there a way to control this to ensure the soil around the site isn't contaminated?	Yannick Lafleur (WSC): We received your complaint and we are currently investigating this situation. With the recent snowfall, it's a bit more difficult to get to the root of the problem, but we're taking this situation very seriously. We'll get back to you with a clear answer as soon as possible.
<b>Nicolas Haeck:</b> What do you intend to do once the work is done? Are you planning to clean the site and revitalize the land?	<b>Catherine Tremblay (JCCBI):</b> In all of our construction contracts, contractors are always obliged to clean the site once the work is done. JCCBI is currently working on a program to revitalize the approaches of the Jacques Cartier Bridge with parks and new developments to give the sector new life. We're aware that there are a lot of families in the sector, and we want all residents in this area to enjoy beautiful spaces. There will be public consultations about this over the next few years.

# **Meeting adjourned**

The committee meeting ended at 8:15 p.m. The meeting minutes will be available at JCCBI's website at <u>www.JacquesCartierChamplain.ca</u> on the Citizen Forum page.

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m., at the Centre St-Pierre.

For any questions in the meantime, residents, business owners and users can contact JCCBI at:

- + 450-651-8771
- + communications@pjcci.ca

To stay informed about the work, people can register for the "Jacques Cartier" alert via JCCBI's website or follow us on Twitter @pontJCBridge.