

# JACQUES CARTIER BRIDGE GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Major steel reinforcement work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge in 2017

## **MINUTES**

Meeting held Tuesday, March 28, 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)

- + Cyril Michaud, Director, Construction
- + Andy Woo, Director, Planning
- + Julie Paquet, Director, Communications
- + Janick Bonnier, Engineer, Construction
- + Joëlle-Ann Blanchette, Advisor, Communications

#### CONSORTIUM WSP-CIMA+ (WSC)

- + Yannick Lafleur, Engineer, Site Supervisor
- + Guy Lemay, Engineer, Site Supervisor

### MONTAGE SAINT-LAURENT (MSL)

+ Jean Grandmont, Director, Operations

#### VILLE DE MONTRÉAL (VdM)

- + Marthe Boucher, Head, Permits and Inspection Division
- + Pierre-André Volcy, Noise Control Technician, Permits and Inspection Division
- + Norbert Payne, Noise Control Technician, Permits and Inspection Division

# SPVM - POSTE DE QUARTIER CENTRE-SUD (SPVM)

+ Sylvain Dubois, Lieutenant, 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: to provide an update about the steel work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge (Montreal sector), discuss the planned work for 2018, and present the development plans for the land under the bridge (2020-2021).

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

# Steel work for 2017-2019 and temporary compensatory measures

# PRESENTATION BY CYRIL MICHAUD, JANICK BONNIER and ANDY WOO

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.

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).

About 60% of the Phase-1 work (between Tansley and De Maisonneuve) is complete. The noisy work for Phase 1 (rivet removal and sandblasting) will end in April 2017 and the first work phase will end in summer 2017. Phase 2 of the work (between De Maisonneuve and the entrance to the bridge) will start in summer 2017 and continue until spring 2018. The third and last work phase (between Tansley and De Maisonneuve) will start in spring 2018 and continue until spring 2019.

JCCBI takes the comments and concerns of waterfront residents very seriously. In recent months, we have received comments about noise created by night workers, panels in the wind, the doors of temporary shelters, and hammering noise. In response to these comments, JCCBI implemented the following mitigation measures:

- + Workers made aware of the issue
- + Tightening of panels and shelter doors
- + Work schedules optimized (noisy work done mainly during the day)

In spring 2017, temporary compensatory measures will also be implemented to minimize the impact and beautify the sector during the work:

- + Installation of fences on JCCBI land next to the land of waterfront residents
- + Suspended flower boxes hung on fences
- + Deployment starting in spring 2017 until the land is permanently developed

# **Discussion period**

QUESTION	ANSWER
<b>Léo Pelletier:</b> Why is the work going from south to north and then back south?	Cyril Michaud (JCCBI): This relates to the priorities of our work phases. Some components need to be replaced sooner than others, depending on the section of the bridge. We also need to coordinate this work with the rest of our work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge.
<b>Denis Parent:</b> I live at the corner of Logan and Dorion. Will there be work near this intersection in the short term?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): In the short term, no. Upcoming work in this sector will mainly be on the bridge's metal structure and will be done later in 2018.
Christian Roy: I live at the corner of De Lorimier and René-Lévesque. Can you give me more details about the upcoming Phase 1 work that will end on July 15?	Jean Grandmont (MSL): Over the next few weeks, you'll notice a gradual dismantling of the work site between René-Lévesque and De Maisonneuve. The noisy rivet removal and sandblasting work should be finalized in mid-April. All Phase 1 work should finish before the construction holiday.
Ibrahim Fakih: I live on Papineau Avenue. There's a lot of traffic during the weekends. It's hard to get in or out of the house. Is Are there any plans in the works to help reduce the traffic in this sector?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Lately, there have been a lot of aggressive lane closures during the weekends, especially for the illumination project. We've seen the worst of it because the illumination project will be completed in May. Generally, we try to close only one lane at a time, but for the illumination project we often needed two lanes closed. In the future, after this project is done, we'll go back to our usual lane closures so the traffic will be less dense.
Isabelle Lapointe: I live at the Pied du courant co-op. Can you provide	<b>Jean Grandmont (MSL):</b> In mid-April, nearly all the work to remove the rivets will be complete. There

concrete details about how long we'll have to listen to the hammering noise during the riveting work?	will be some one-off rivets to remove, but nothing major. The hammering noise will soon finish for the entire summer.
Isabelle Lapointe: Will the work in 2018 be similar to the work in Phase 1?	Cyril Michaud (JCCBI): Yes, this work will be similar to the current work. However, we are looking at improved mitigation measures to minimize the impact even more for residents in the sector. The Phase 1 work has helped us learn how to better coordinate the work for upcoming phases.
Karim Kammah: When are you planning to reopen the bicycle path on the Jacques Cartier Bridge?	Julie Paquet (JCCBI): The bicycle path is being cleaned starting this week. We are planning to open the path and sidewalk very soon. The work for the illumination project is almost complete. As soon as the work site has been completely dismantled and the path has been made safe, we will reopen the bicycle and pedestrian path network.
<b>Mélodie Jetté:</b> I live at the Pied du courant co-op. Would it be possible to slightly change the day work shifts so that the noisy work doesn't start at 7:00 a.m.?	Jean Grandmont (MSL): The work currently starts at 7:00 a.m. I can't promise you anything, as we are working with unionized labour, but I can check if it's possible to start the work at 8:00 a.m. to give residents in the sector a break. I think this may be possible.
Denis Parent: Would it be possible to install safety bollards at the entrance of the bicycle path on the Montreal side to reduce the speed of cyclists going down the hill?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): We are currently reviewing all safety measures on the multipurpose path of the Jacques Cartier Bridge. Your comment will definitely be taken into consideration for our study.
Isabelle Lapointe: I sometimes see workers at the site wearing protective gear. Are we being exposed to toxic debris?	Jean Grandmont (MSL): We are currently doing sandblasting work inside containment shelters. I want to reassure you that the work is protected by many containment panels, and that absolutely nothing gets out. I also want to assure you that residents are completely protected. No toxic dust gets out of the shelters.
Victor Balsis: I would like to mention another problem at the approaches to the bridge. For many years, water has overflowed onto the sidewalk at the metro entrance. What are you going to do to improve the situation?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): There are indeed drainage problems under the bridge. We will soon connect the bridge's drainage system to the municipal network when we redevelop the land under the bridge. We're going to do a lot of retention and cleaning of the wastewater. The overflow will no longer go onto the street.
Léo Pelletier: What is the actual end date for the work and when will the noise in the sector stop?	Cyril Michaud (JCCBI): We have divided up the work into three phases. The first phase will end in July. The second phase will start this summer and finish in spring 2018 and the third phase will start in spring 2018 and continue until spring 2019. All of the steel work should finish in spring 2019.
Nicolas Haeck: How are you planning to coordinate the implementation of these temporary compensatory measures?	Julie Paquet (JCCBI): Tonight, the goal was to present the preliminary measures and get your feedback. If you agree with these proposals, we will soon coordinate the fence installation at the same

	time as the work, which will take place over one or two months during the summer.
<b>Denis Parent:</b> Are you also going to rebuild the fences at the corner of Logan and Dorian?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): We are currently working on a plan to redevelop the land under the bridge to revitalize the sector and make it more appealing. The land next to Dorian and Logan is part of this plan.
Christian Roy: There are concrete blocks behind our co-op at the corner of De Lorimier and René-Lévesque. Could you remove these blocks before installing the temporary fences? There is also a driveway near our property for the worksite. Would it be possible to either make this driveway safe or get rid of it?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): We have taken note of all your comments. We will send our supervisors to the area to review everything and see how we can take the appropriate measures to rectify the situation.

# Preliminary development plans for the land under the Jacques Cartier Bridge (2020-2021)

A prefeasibility study to develop the land under the Jacques Cartier Bridge is currently ongoing. The preliminary development plans for the urban park presented to waterfront residents—which include improvements to the skatepark and the creation of a public gathering space and family recreational facilities—are part of the plan to revitalize the Jacques Cartier Bridge and make the bridge a seamless part of its environment. The development work for 2020-2021 will be done in collaboration with the Ville de Montréal. A public consultation will be held very soon in the Ville-Marie borough to get ideas and feedback from residents.

# **Discussion period**

QUESTION	ANSWER
Raymond Boudreau: Could you create a dog park in this sector?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): The plans presented tonight are only preliminary. We will consider your comments, and we invite you to attend the public consultation in the borough that will be held soon.
Denis Parent: Don't you think that this development will create clashes between the homeless population and neighbourhood residents? Have you thought about ways to make the sector safe?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Indeed, safety is a priority issue for us. Right now, this land is not being used by neighbourhood residents. With these new developments, we hope to bring more clients into the sector. And more people will naturally make the sector safer.
	Julie Paquet (JCCBI): We are also working with community nonprofits in the sector. We have an active dialogue with the local Poste de quartier and the nonprofit Spectre de rue to launch a grassroots strategy.
Victor Balsis: People have felt unsafe in the sector for a long time. How are you going to make the sector safe? Are you going to connect the Parc des	Andy Woo (JCCBI): When we designed the preliminary plans, resident safety was a big part of what we considered. We thought of many ways to make the sector safe, particularly by installing lots of lighting and eliminating isolated areas. However, these plans are preliminary. We're going to

Faubourgs to the rest of the development?	implement all necessary measures to make the sector safe.
	The current revitalization plan for the land under the bridge includes the land between René-Lévesque and De Maisonneuve. We are also planning to announce very shortly other development plans in collaboration with the Ville de Montréal for the land at the entrance to the bridge near Papineau.
Isabelle Lapointe: I would also like everyone to get along with the homeless people in the area, because it's their neighbourhood too. Homelessness is a reality. Have you considered consulting them too?	Julie Paquet (JCCBI): The process that we started with Spectre de rue is meant to proactively address this reality instead of simply pushing people farther out of the area. However, we have taken note of your comment.
<b>Léo Pelletier:</b> I'm very happy that the sector will be developed. What is the planned timeline for this work?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): We are currently targeting completion for 2020-2021. We will soon organize a public consultation to get comments from residents. We will then change the development plans accordingly. We also want to start the project as soon as possible and coordinate around the ongoing steelwork. If we can start the work earlier, we will.
<b>Léo Pelletier:</b> A few months ago, the Ville de Montréal mentioned that they wanted to enhance De Lorimier Avenue. Is this still the case?	Marthe Boucher (VdM): I can't make any announcements about this for the moment, but I'll note down your contact information and get back to you about this.
Michèle Renaud: I live in a seniors' residence on Fullum Street near the bridge. In your development plans, you need to think about making it safer for a diverse clientele to get around on De Lorimier Avenue and Fullum Street.	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Thank you, we have taken note of your comment.
Christian Roy: Snow and debris from the bridge sometimes fall during winter snow removal operations. Is there a way to control falling debris or snow from the bridge for our safety?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Thank you, we will take note of your comments and we will follow up on this issue to rectify the situation.
<b>Léo Pelletier:</b> You also need to think about cleaning up the syringes on the land under the bridge to make the area better for everyone.	Julie Paquet (JCCBI): We are currently working with local nonprofits to clean up the syringes. Resident safety is a priority for us.
Nicolas Haeck: Do you plan on developing a park for the children of the neighbourhood?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Yes, this has been included in the development plans. The sector will be developed for all types of residents, including families.
Victor Balsis: Are you going to develop the land south of René-Lévesque?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Given the high traffic density in this area, we're planning to develop the land to clean it up, but we aren't planning to create parks or community facilities.

Raymond Boudreau: Could you install drinking fountains under the bridge for public events?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): We'll definitely consider your comment when we create the revised development plans.
Denis Parent: Near René-Lévesque, there is a park and trees that are constantly being damaged by falling snow from the bridge. Can you do something to keep the snow from falling from the bridge?	Cyril Michaud (JCCBI): I noted this comment before. In theory, no snow should fall from the bridge. We take this feedback very seriously, and we'll do what is necessary to rectify the situation.
Christian Roy: Could you install garbage bins and portable toilets for the many public events in the sector?	Marthe Boucher (VdM): We've taken note of your comment, and we'll follow up with you after the meeting.
Jérôme Bourgeois: Who will be in charge of maintaining the development under the bridge?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): JCCBI will be in charge of maintaining the land under the bridge, but we will also work with the Ville de Montréal. Discussions about this have started, but the final coordination plans have not yet been finalized.
Christian Roy: Have you looked at similar projects around the world?	Andy Woo (JCCBI): Yes. When we started developing this project, we reviewed about 30 similar projects, which confirmed that this project was also feasible.

# **Meeting adjourned**

The committee meeting ended at 8:45 p.m. The meeting minutes will be available from JCCBI's website at <a href="https://www.JacquesCartierChamplain.ca">www.JacquesCartierChamplain.ca</a> on the Citizen Forum page.

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 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.