

Melocheville Tunnel: Replacement of Bridge P-113, tunnel paving, securing of fencing on rock walls, and related electrical work

1 – Project description:

Project: TMP0014

The Melocheville Tunnel, which was built in 1956–1957 by the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Authority (now the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation), allows road traffic to pass uninterrupted directly under the canal of the St. Lawrence Seaway. This tunnel connects the central and western sectors of the Beauharnois area.

Jurisdiction over this structure was transferred to The Jacques Cartier and Champlain Bridges Incorporated (JCCBI) in 1998. Since then, JCCBI has also maintained Bridge P-113, which is located at the west approach to the tunnel and crosses Le Petit Canal waterway. Because it has reached the end of its service life, and due to existing hydraulic conditions, this bridge needs to be replaced.

Inspections have revealed defects mainly in the deck system that include seepage, delamination, concrete spalling, block cracking, as well as reinforcement that is visible in different areas and completely bare in one area. The median also shows signs of concrete delamination, spalling and scaling.

The goal of this project is to replace Bridge P-113 with a new structure that is designed according to prevailing codes and standards, particularly for considerations related to its hydraulic opening system. The goal is to increase the structure's resilience to climate change and give it a 75-year service life.

Specifically, this project includes but is not limited to the following work:

- Replacement of the existing Bridge P-113 with a design that makes the structure easier to inspect and maintain, while minimizing the impacts on Hwy. 132.
- Improvement to the road condition at the tunnel approaches.
- Repairs to the fences at the top of the rock walls.
- Partial replacement of the tunnel's heating cable system.
- Replacement of some street-light foundation blocks at the tunnel approaches.

During the work, which will be done in phases starting in spring 2025, traffic will be maintained on Hwy. 132 and the access road toward Carrière South-West. The developed maintenance scenarios include a lane width that is large enough for vehicles to pass. However, occasional and partial night closures in the Melocheville Tunnel will be required for some critical work, such as concreting the deck. Note that the tunnel sidewalk will remain open to active mobility users during the work.

2 – Notice of intent

June 11th, 2024 – JCCBI intends to determine whether the project could have significant adverse environmental impacts. To help it make an informed decision, JCCBI is **inviting the public to provide feedback** about this determination until July 20th, 2024 by email at: edd@pjcci.ca

3 – End of consultation period:

July 20th, 2024 – The public consultation period for the project is now over. JCCBI is reviewing the comments received to determine whether the project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental impacts.

Information:

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