

# JACQUES CARTIER BRIDGE GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Update on work on the Jacques Cartier Bridge (Montreal sector)

MINUTES Meeting held Tuesday, September 26, 2017 (7:00 p.m.) Centre St-Pierre, 1212 Panet Street, Montreal, QC H2L 2Y7

## **Representatives present**

THE JACQUES CARTIER AND CHAMPLAIN BRIDGES INCORPORATED (JCCBI)

- + Manon Leroux, Director, Projects
- + Julie Paquet, Director, Communications
- + Janick Bonnier, Engineer, Construction
- + Vincent Guimont-Hébert, Engineer, Environment and Corporate Social Responsibility
- + Cathy Beauséjour, Communications Advisor

CONSORTIUM WSP-CIMA+ (WSC)

- + Yannick Lafleur, Site Supervisor
- VILLE DE MONTRÉAL (VdM)
  - + Pierre-André Volcy, Noise Control Technician, Permits and Inspection Division

SPVM – POSTE DE QUARTIER CENTRE-SUD (SPVM)

+ Christophe Van-Eyck, Officer, Poste de quartier 22

#### SPECTRE DE RUE

+ Pascal Chalifoux, Street Worker

COOP LES VALORISTES

+ Marica Vazquez Tagliero, Coordinator

#### Meeting called to order

#### INTRODUCTION BY JULIE PAQUET

The moderator called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She went over the committee's mandate and the goals of the meeting: provide an update on completed and planned work and on current and future partnerships. The meeting also provides a platform for discussion.

The panelists introduced themselves to the committee members and residents.

## Updates on work

#### PRESENTATION BY MANON LEROUX

In July, JCCBI completed the final phase to reinforce the metal structure of the Jacques Cartier Bridge (between Viger, De Lorimier, De Maisonneuve and Dorion), which represents the largest steel contract in the bridge's history. The work involves replacing braces and reinforcing a number of structural steel components.

JCCBI would like to thank local residents for their patience during this first work phase.

Manon Leroux told everyone that night work would be done in the sector on October 2 for the replacement of a brace.

She added that the fences to be added as a compensatory measure will be installed in the coming weeks. The contract was just awarded in the past few days.

Manon Leroux then went over the mitigation measures that will be set up for the next work phases. These measures are in response to comments made at previous committee meetings. She added that, during Phase 1, JCCBI worked with acoustical engineers to implement new noise reduction measures. These measures are based on sound level readings taken during Phase 1 of the work.

During the next phases, acoustic enclosures will be set up around the work areas. Devices that produce vibrations and noise (such as compressors) will be wrapped up to reduce the noise they create. These measures include a noise monitoring plan with the contractor, which should include installing sound level meters in work areas. Work schedules will continue to be optimized to concentrate noisy work during the day as much as possible. Since no braces will be replaced in the next phases, this should help reduce the amount of night work. Finally, JCCBI will continue to require contractors to use equipment that has noise reducers.

Manon Leroux added that building the enclosures will create noise. However, JCCBI is confident that, once installed, these enclosures will be more efficient at containing noise from the work.

QUESTION	ANSWER
Léo Pelletier asked if the enclosures for the next work phases will be the same as those installed during the first phase.	Manon Leroux said that the enclosures installed for the next phases will be more effective. She added that this is because of reinforcements to the structure done during the previous phase.
Mélodie Jetté and Louis Chaput-Richard asked what the night schedules will be like.	Manon Leroux said that the contract has not yet been awarded, but that since no braces need to be replaced, we know that night work will be reduced. Yannick Lafleur added that mitigation measures will be implemented that will certainly reduce the noise. He added that noise readings taken during the previous phase show that ambient noise levels when work was not being done were sometimes just as high as when work was being done. He said that two sound level meters were installed: one on René-Lévesque near the condos and another on Falardeau. Manon Leroux said that the installation of sound level meters will be reviewed during the next phases.
Mélodie Jetté and Louis Chaput-Richard asked if more details about the nature and scope of night work could be made available at this stage.	Manon Leroux said that, once the contract is awarded, we can better assess the nature and extent of the night work.
Mélodie Jetté asked if the noise monitoring data will be made public, as she would like to have access to it. Mélodie Jetté said that she would like this information to be made public at all times and not just presented at the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee.	Julie Paquet suggested reporting on this at the next meetings once the contract has been awarded. Julie Paquet said that this has not yet been discussed and that we will review this request.

## **Discussion period**

Manon Leroux presented the areas for the next phases of the steel work. Initial work is expected to begin in December between De Maisonneuve and Sainte-Catherine. Subsequent work starting in summer 2018 will be conducted between Tansley and De Maisonneuve.

Manon Leroux went over the work that will have an impact on pedestrians and cyclists who use the Jacques Cartier Bridge. She said that the sidewalk toward Longueuil should soon be completely reopened in the coming days. She then mentioned that a staircase up to the sidewalk should be built near the service station on De Maisonneuve in spring 2018. The pedestrian access ramp along the lanes will be closed so that a more direct and safer access point can be built. The pedestrian tunnel under the bridge will remain closed, particularly in light of comments made to the Good Neighbourly Relations Committee. She also mentioned that the work will be carried out in the park along Dorion to create a single access point to the bicycle path at the corner of Confiseurs and Dorion.

Manon Leroux then presented all of the work that will be done on the bridge until 2021 that will impact bicycle path and sidewalk traffic. Some work will result in partial closures of the multipurpose path and complete closures of the sidewalk. This work includes the replacement of guard rails between winter 2017 and summer 2018; painting and steel work in various sections of the bridge between fall 2017 and winter 2021; the installation of ducts and fibre optics from spring 2018 to summer 2019. She said that JCCBI wants to keep the bicycle and pedestrian path open during the day and to optimize closures at night. She also mentioned that JCCBI will conduct a pilot project this year to keep the multipurpose path open during the winter and that the multipurpose path and sidewalk will not be accessible during this period.

Finally, Manon Leroux went over the levelling and paving work planned for 2019 and the work to create an urban park under the bridge that is scheduled for 2020. Manon Leroux said that the contract for the park has not been awarded and that the revised design plans based on comments from consultations held in the spring will be presented to the committee when available.

QUESTION	ANSWER
Victor Di Lallo-Balsis asked whether pedestrians can keep using the multipurpose path and whether JCCBI has decided to continue with its project to separate pedestrians and cyclists. He mentioned that tourists like to use the path to take pictures of the city. He asked why JCCBI doesn't simply make the path wider.	Julie Paquet explained that the number of cyclists using the multipurpose path has increased over the years, which has created problems between pedestrians and cyclists. JCCBI will install signs that will help direct pedestrians and cyclists to the right places. She says that tourists can still go to the Île Sainte-Hélène pavilion to get a nice view of the city. Julie Paquet added that widening the multipurpose path would entail complex structural modifications. The planned cyclist-pedestrian separation is a concrete response to reduce incidents between pedestrians and cyclists.
Ron Rayside asked if there would be lane reductions during the paving work.	Manon Leroux said that this work will likely be done during a blitz that will involve complete closures of the bridge and that this contract has not yet been awarded.
Mélodie Jetté again brought up the sound level meters installed during Phase 1 of the steel work and asked why a sound level meter had been installed on René-Lévesque in a location that was not near the work.	Yannick Lafleur said that two sound level meters were installed during Phase 1: one near the condos on René-Lévesque and one on Falardeau.
Mona Hanne, who lives in one of the buildings where fences will be installed, said that she wants to be notified before	Julie Paquet said that agreements had been reached with the condo board and the coop administrators. We will be in contact with the

# **Discussion period**

the fences go up and that she would like a key management protocol to be established.	people who have signed these agreements once the contract is officially awarded to a contractor and once we have a more precise timetable for the work.
Stéphanie Bélanger-Heng expressed concern about work sites in neighbourhood green space, such as the Parc des Faubourgs, which is used by local residents and students at the École Garneau. She asked if the paving work would spill over onto the green space.	Manon Leroux said that she would take note of this concern, but that the paving work should not take up space in the park.
Léo Pelletier asked if the pétanque terrain was removed from the plans for the urban park under the bridge.	Julie Paquet said that comments about this from the consultations were given to the designers. She said that the contract will be awarded this fall, and that the plans will be ready in 2018.

## Updates on partnerships

#### Partnership with Spectre de rue

#### PRESENTATION BY VINCENT GUIMONT-HÉBERT AND PASCAL CHALIFOUX

Vincent Guimont-Hébert gave an update on the project with Spectre de rue and said that the partnership seems promising. JCCBI has created an intervention plan with the organization to provide ongoing support and to refer any homeless or marginalized people in the area near the bridge to the appropriate resources. Pascal Chalifoux explained what street work is and the reality of his job. He covers a broad area to create connections with people on the street to help them, much like a social worker does. He talks with people, explains the consequences of their actions, encourages them to act responsibly, and directs them to the right resources. He says that for some people, living on the street is a way of life and that they choose to live on the street on the margins of society.

Vincent Guimont-Hébert said that JCCBI employees have been trained on issues related to the presence of drug addicts and used syringes in the area. Vincent Guimont-Hébert suggested that a quick training session be given at the next meeting. Everyone thought that this was a good idea.

QUESTION	ANSWER
Philippe Bouchard asked if the proposed development project will have an impact on clients living on the street.	Pascal Chalifoux said that the development will certainly have an impact and that a number of homeless people will be displaced. He gave an example of other areas that have recently been redeveloped or closed and that have displaced homeless people, particularly those who stay under the bridge.
Mona Hanne said that she has noticed a real improvement since the enhancements done in June.	Pascal Chalifoux said that studies show people tend to be more respectful when an area looks nice.
	He said that one goal of his work is to help people on the street be more considerate of the areas they live in.

#### **Discussion period**

Ron Rayside asked if there is a climate of fear and whether people are afraid of the homeless.	Christophe Van-Eyck and Pascal Chalifoux said that people aren't afraid. It isn't true that people who live on the street are more violent. What irritates people more is the issue of cleanliness.
	A citizen added that he has never felt threatened and that he has seen incidents between drug addicts, but not toward residents. However, he did say that there is stealing.

## Partnership with Coop Les Valoristes

Julie Paquet gave an update on the partnership with Coop Les Valoristes, which did a pilot project for a mobile container collection site in summer 2017. The Jacques Cartier Bridge, in the borough of Ville-Marie, was one of the areas visited by the mobile container collection site. This project has helped even more people bring refundable containers to the collection service. The mobile collection site provides the deposit amount to anyone who brings returnable containers, without discrimination and without quantity limits.

A total of 300,007 containers were collected this season. Julie Paquet said that, via the project to develop an urban park, JCCBI aims to provide this organization with a more permanent space to offer their services.

## Presentation of a partnership opportunity with Dose Culture

Julie Paquet presented a new opportunity for a partnership to create a legal graffiti wall near Dorion in collaboration with Dose Culture, which would create a code of conduct for graffiti artists and run activities.

QUESTION	ANSWER
Pierre Dénommé from Sentier urbain is happy that JCCBI is getting involved in the community. However, as a partner for 9 years, he said that he is disappointed that Sentier urbain's projects were not included in the presentation this evening. He said that he isn't comfortable with the project for a legal graffiti wall, as his organization has already started negotiations with the city to develop this land.	Julie Paquet apologized for this situation and that, indeed, Sentier urbain is an important partner of JCCBI's. Vincent Guimont-Hébert said that discussions about this project have just started and that there certainly is an opportunity for partnership and dialogue with Sentier urbain.
Pascal Chalifoux said that the legal graffiti wall is a very good idea but that it may not be necessary to involve Dose Culture to do this. The community of graffiti artists itself could prepare the wall and maintain its own code of conduct.	Julie Paquet said that we would take note of this comment.
Philippe Bouchard raised the point that it would be a good idea for organizations to co-manage the area to make it a living, dynamic and occupied space.	The representative from Sentier urbain said that organizations already speak to and know each other.

## **Discussion period**

Ron Rayside said that he has lived in	Christophe Van-Eyck said he was reassured and
the neighbourhood for 10 years. The	confident, as he has been included in the process
neighbourhood needs to be active and	since the beginning. He said that the Poste de
help people see each other and be	quartier 22 has created special squads to patrol
seen. The spaces in this neighbourhood	Sainte-Catherine and Parc Beaudry. These squads
are very sensitive, and this type of	may be increased once land is developed under the
planning can't be overlooked.	bridge.
Philippe Bouchard asked that toilets be included in the urban park development plans to meet the needs of people who go there with children.	Julie Paquet said that a toilet and wash station was included in the prefeasibility study and that we will communicate this concern to the designers.

# Meeting adjourned

The committee meeting ended at 8:30 p.m. The meeting minutes will be available from JCCBI's website at <u>www.JacquesCartierChamplain.ca</u> on the Citizen Forum page.

The next committee meeting will be held on November 28, 2017, 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.