



## VIBRATION MONITORING PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Gordie Howe International Bridge Project will address regional transportation needs that will positively impact the flow of traffic and goods through this key gateway and help our national economies grow. Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority's (WDBA) private-sector partner, Bridging North America (BNA), will construct the Bridge, the US and Canadian Ports of Entry, and new Michigan Interchange connection to Interstate-75. As part of the project, just over three kilometres of Sandwich Street will be reconstructed. Reconstruction will stretch from south of the Rosedale Avenue roundabout past Ojibway Parkway to McKee Avenue. This work will occur in a three-phased approach that will continue through 2024.

With any major construction project, activities may cause noise and vibration beyond the project limits. In Sandwich, BNA has identified properties located within the Zone of Influence of high-vibration activities. Damage to properties is not anticipated, however properties located within the Zone of Influence are eligible to participate in this monitoring program at no cost.

### **What is the Vibration Monitoring Process?**

Vibration Monitoring is the process of monitoring structures that are near areas where high vibration construction activity is expected to occur to ensure properties are not adversely impacted.

BNA has identified which structures fall within the Zone of Influence based on the construction activities to take place. These distances are derived from the recommended vibration limits in the US Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual. This document is used globally as a best practice for guidelines on construction noise and vibration.

The FTA Manual provides guidelines to mitigate potential impacts from construction vibration based on the specific construction activity and equipment to be used and the proximity of adjacent building types. Industrial, commercial, residential and historic buildings each have a unique distance that identify whether they fall within the Zone of Influence.

The predicted levels of vibration indicate that no structural damage is expected as a result of construction activities, however the project team is implementing a Vibration Monitoring Program. The Zone of Influence ranges from 6.1m for commercial structures to 7.9 for residential structures and 11.1m for historical structures.

### **How long does the vibration monitoring last?**

Pre-construction surveying is completed in an initial visit lasting up to one day. Monitoring during construction will occur when high vibration activities are occurring adjacent to your property, and a final property visit will be scheduled after high vibration construction activities in your area are complete. BNA will clarify the schedule that applies to your area when information becomes available.

### **When does the vibration monitoring process start?**

BNA plans to start monitoring along Sandwich Street in March 2024. Property owners will be contacted prior to work beginning if they are located within the Zone of Influence.

### **How do I know if I'm in the Zone of Influence and can participate?**

Bridging North America will contact those that are located within the Zone of Influence prior to construction beginning in their area. A map of the identified areas can be found on [www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com](http://www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com).

If you are not contacted, your property does not fall within a Zone of Influence and is not eligible for participation.

### **How do I enroll in the program?**

Property owners who are eligible and wish to participate in the program are required to complete, sign and return an Access Agreement form no later than March 8, 2024. The form can be mailed with a self-addressed, stamped envelope that is provided. Forms can also be emailed to [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com) or dropped off to the Sandwich Community Office at 3201 Sandwich Street on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### **What happens after I enroll?**

BNA will make an appointment with you for an initial survey of your property. Additional information and details about the program will be provided at the time.

### **How will BNA know if my property is affected by the construction activities?**

BNA will take results from the pre-construction survey (identifying existing conditions) then compare them to results taken from surveys conducted following the end of construction. The surveys will be assessed to determine if the vibration levels produced adverse effects. If vibrational impacts occur, property owners will be notified.

### **What does BNA do with the information?**

The information from the pre-construction and post-construction vibration program will only be used by project staff for impact assessment purposes.

### **How will I know if the people involved are with BNA?**

BNA personnel and their representatives will be easily identifiable with a BNA identification card. BNA representatives will not enter a property without first making an appointment with the property owner.

### **Do I have to pay to participate in the Vibration Monitoring Program?**

No. The vibration monitoring process is free to identified property owners located within the Zone of Influence.

### **Will the monitoring damage my property?**

No. The monitoring will not cause any damage.

### **If future monitoring determines structures on my property have been damaged, who will make necessary repairs?**

If construction-related damage occurs to a property that is participating in the Vibration Monitoring Program, BNA will work with the property owner to assess the cause and extent of the damages.

### **Do I have to sign up now or can I wait?**

Residents can sign up at any time. Eligible property owners that don't opt into the Vibration Monitoring Program during the first round of vibration monitoring can do so at a later date, however the monitoring will only consider the state of the property from the time of the survey regardless of whether construction has occurred.

### **If I don't participate in this monitoring program and later see that my property has been damaged, what do I do then?**

If construction-related damage occurs to a property, BNA will work only with property owners participating in the Vibration Monitoring Program to assess the cause and extent of the damages.

Eligible property owners that don't opt into the Vibration Monitoring Program during the first round of vibration monitoring can do so at a later date, however the monitoring will only consider the state of the property from the time of the survey regardless of whether construction has occurred.

### **I think my house should be monitored. How do I get on the list?**

Only properties that fall within the identified Zone of Influence are eligible for the Vibration Monitoring Program. Contact the project team to check whether you are eligible at 1-844-322-1773 or [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com).

**What if I am not eligible but I feel vibration within my property once construction starts?**

While vibrations may be felt at a property, it is very unlikely that vibration will cause damage to a property outside the Zone of Influence. In addition, BNA will be monitoring vibration levels within the construction zone to ensure the vibrations remain below a very conservative threshold level.

**Where can I learn more about upcoming construction activities in my area?**

In addition to the open house, information on upcoming construction activities can be found at [www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com](http://www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com). You can also call 1-844-322-1773, or email [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com).

**Who can I contact to ask questions?**

If you have any questions about the Vibration Monitoring Program, please contact the project team at 1-844-322-1773 or [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com).

The Sandwich Community Office (3201 Sandwich Street) is also open to walk-in traffic on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to address questions or concerns from the public related to this program or the project in general.

**For more information about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project visit**

[www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com](http://www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com) or call 1-844-322-1773. Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/GordieHoweBrg](https://www.twitter.com/GordieHoweBrg), like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GordieHoweBridge](https://www.facebook.com/GordieHoweBridge) and connect with us on LinkedIn at [www.linkedin.com/company/wdba-apwd](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wdba-apwd)