

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan region and includes features that make this project truly distinctive. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan.

On the Gordie Howe International Bridge, community benefits are identified opportunities that can advance economic, social or environmental conditions for the local communities. In developing the Community Benefits Plan, it was key that the initiatives selected for implementation would provide positive outcomes for the Windsor-Detroit region and specifically focus on enhancing the Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit communities, which are the neighbourhoods closest to the project area.

THE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT

The Community Organization Investment initiative will provide funding of \$50,000 (CDN) in Canada and the US to community organizations serving Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit residents. This initiative will invest a total of \$500,000 (CDN) in the two communities from 2020-2024.

Eligible organizations can submit an application for funding ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 (CDN) for events, programming or infrastructure improvements that will benefit the Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit neighbourhoods (as defined by the maps included on page 2).

Eligible applications will be reviewed by members of the Project's Local Community Group as well as senior representatives from Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA), Bridging North America (BNA) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

ELIGIBILITY

Organizations and proposed projects/initiatives must meet the following eligibility criteria to be considered for funding:

- The lead applicant must be a registered charity or registered non-profit organization. Alternatively, a trustee/fiduciary organization can be named in the application and must provide proof of charitable or non-profit status along with an accompanying letter of support.
- Individuals, public sector and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply. Applications from public sector foundations will be accepted.
- The lead applicant must be located in or provide services to the Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit communities.
- Only one application per organization is permitted.
- The requested funding must support events, programming or infrastructure improvements that will directly benefit the Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit communities and align with at least one of the community investment priorities identified through public consultation, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.
- Proposed projects/initiatives must begin after July 1, 2021 and have anticipated completion dates prior to June 30, 2022. Funding will not be provided retroactively.
- Funding requests cannot exceed \$25,000 (CDN). Funding will not be committed over multiple years.
- Organizations that have received funding through the Community Benefits Plan for a different initiative or through a previous funding cycle of the Community Organization Investment initiative are eligible to apply if the organization has satisfied reporting requirements.
- Applications from religious organizations may be considered if the proposed project/initiative is non-religious in nature and will provide benefits to the greater community.
- The following projects/initiatives are not eligible for funding: scholarships, deficit or debt reduction, fundraising/ sponsorship activities and complete or partial purchases of vehicles.

TIMELINE AND REVIEW PROCESS

November 17, 2020 – January 27, 2021 (12:00PM EST):

Applications will be accepted between Tuesday, November 17, 2020 and Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Only applications received before the deadline of 12:00PM EST on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 will be considered.

February 2021:

All applications will be reviewed to ensure completeness and eligibility. Incomplete or ineligible applications will not be put forth for further review. Complete and eligible applications will be reviewed by the Local Community Group, comprised of 16 stakeholders from Windsor and Detroit, who will recommend projects for funding.

March 2021:

Senior representatives from WDBA, BNA and MDOT will review applications recommended by the Local Community Group and select projects to receive funding.

April 2021:

Applicants will be notified via email of the status of their application.

July 2021:

Funding will be released to successful applicants.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project team reserves the right to offer funding in an amount that differs from the original funding request.

Individuals reviewing Community Organization Investment applications will be required to treat application content as confidential and disclose any conflicts of interest.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report within 90 days of project/initiative completion, no later than June 30, 2022, and to adhere to the Recognition Guidelines provided once funding has been approved.

ELIGIBLE APPLICATION AREAS:



SANDWICH/WEST WINDSOR



DELRAY/SOUTHWEST DETROIT

HOW TO APPLY

Interested organizations are encouraged to download the Community Organization Investment Application Form at GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com. Applications can be submitted in the following ways:

- **Electronically** to info@wdbridge.com in word or .pdf format noting “Community Organization Investment Application, Attn: Manager Community Benefits” in the subject line.
- **Via registered mail** in printed format to the attention of the Manager Community Benefits at: WDBA Main Office, 100 Ouellette Avenue, Suite 400, Windsor, ON, N9A 6T3

Organizations will be sent an email confirming receipt of their application within three business days of their submission.

LEARN MORE

If you have questions about the Community Organization Investment initiative, application process or eligibility criteria please contact us via email at info@wdbridge.com or via our toll-free number at **1-844-322-1773**.

Additionally, interested organizations may attend the following:

- Virtual Community Organization Investment Information Sessions on:
 - December 9, 2020, 1:00PM - 2:00PM
 - January 2021 (Date TBD)
 - Visit GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com for more information and to register for an information session.