



# 2020 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT

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 and Southwest Detroit communities, which are the neighbourhoods closest to the project area.

## THE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT

The Canadian and US Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategies both include a commitment to provide a \$50,000 (CAD) annual investment allowance for community organizations located in or servicing Sandwich or Delray/Southwest Detroit residents for a five-year duration from 2020 – 2024. Applications are now open for the 2020 Community Organization funding cycle and will be accepted until **January 31, 2020**.

Through the Community Organization Investment initiative, eligible organizations can submit applications for funding on an annual basis for proposed initiatives ranging from \$1,000 and \$25,000 (CAD) for events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will benefit the Sandwich or Delray/Southwest Detroit neighbourhoods.

Eligible applications for funding will be reviewed by members of the Local Community Group as well as senior representatives from WDBA, BNA and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for final approval.

## ELIGIBILITY

Organizations and initiatives proposed for funding through the Community Organization Investment initiative must meet the following eligibility criteria to be considered for funding:

- The applicant must be a registered non-profit organization or charity. If the applicant is not a registered non-profit or charity, a trustee organization that is a registered non-profit or charity must also be named within the application and provide an accompanying letter of support.
- Individuals, public sector and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply.
- The applicant must be located in or provides services to the Sandwich community in Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit community in Detroit
- The requested funding will be used to support events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will directly benefit the Sandwich or Delray/Southwest Detroit communities and aligns with one of the community investment priorities identified through public consultation, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.
- Projects/initiatives applying for funding during the 2020 funding cycle must be have anticipated completion dates prior to June 30, 2021. Funding will not be committed over multiple years.
- Projects/initiatives that could be considered religious or political in nature will not be considered for funding, however, applications by religious organizations may be considered if the proposed project/initiative is non-religious in nature and will provide benefits to the greater community.

## TIMELINE AND REVIEW PROCESS

### November 26, 2019 – January 31, 2020:

Applications for funding will be accepted until 4:30PM EST on January 31, 2020.

### February 2020:

All submitted applications will be reviewed to ensure completeness and verify applications meet the eligibility requirements. 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. The Local Community Group will provide feedback and recommendations on funding applications for further review.

### March 2020:

Senior representatives from WDBA, BNA and the State of Michigan will review applications recommended by the Local Community Group.

### April 2020:

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

### July 1, 2020:

Funding will be released to successful applicants. 10 per cent of funding will be withheld until all reporting requirements are satisfied.

Note: Upon approval of funding, successful applicants will receive further information regarding grantee expectations and reporting requirements. Successful applicants will be required to submit a report on the funded project/initiative on or before June 30, 2021. Once reporting requirements are satisfied the remaining funds will be released. Upon review of the applications received during the funding cycle, the Gordie Howe International Bridge team reserves the right to offer funding to successful applicants in an amount that differs from what had been requested in the submitted application.

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

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested organizations can submit their application in the following ways:

- Electronic Application and submission completed via [GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com](http://GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com).
- Download a copy and submit to [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com) noting "Community Organization Investment Application, Attn: Manager Community Benefits" in the subject line.
- In-Person or via mail in printed format to the attention of the Community Benefits Manager to the office locations identified below. Hard-copy applications are available at these locations:
  - WDBA Main Office, 100 Ouellette Avenue, Suite 400, Windsor, ON, N9A 6T3
  - Sandwich Community Office, 3201 Sandwich Street, Windsor, ON, N9C 1A8
  - Southwest Detroit Community Office, 7744 W Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI, 48209

## LEARN MORE

Organizations looking for additional information on the Community Organization Investment process and eligibility requirements are encouraged to connect with the project team.

- Attend a Public Information Meeting on December 9, 2019, in Windsor at Mackenzie Hall or on December 10, 2019, IN Detroit at Historic Fort Wayne
- Visit one of our Community Offices:
  - Sandwich Community Office, 3201 Sandwich St, Windsor, ON N9C 1A8
  - Southwest Detroit Community Office, 7744 Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48209
- Call 1-844-322-1773
- Email [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com)
- Additional Public Drop-in Sessions will also occur in January 2020.