

Forks Road bridge tender awarded; construction expected to be completed by spring 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2022

Welland, ON – On November 1, 2022, Welland City Council awarded the Forks Road bridge replacement to Rankin Construction for \$13.5 million, plus HST. The work is scheduled to be completed by April 30, 2024.

In 2016, during a legislatively-required bridge inspection, inspectors determined that the corrosion rate for the original Forks Road bridge increased to a point where the structure could no longer carry the posted load. At the time, emergency repairs were completed to extend the bridge’s life to 2020.

However, in 2018, the corrosion accelerated, and the temporary repairs were no longer sufficient. As a result, the bridge was closed to vehicular traffic in December 2018.

“This is great news to be sharing with our residents and we look forward to getting the project underway,” said Mayor Frank Campion. “This project isn’t just about a bridge replacement, it’s about reconnecting residents with the City and Niagara as a whole and it’s about our community being more accessible to everyone.”

Empire Communities, developing approximately 2,200 homes in the Dain City area, committed, as part of a memorandum of understanding, to cost-share the project with the City. Federal and provincial funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program: Rural and Northern Stream funding significantly offset the City’s share of the project’s cost.

Project Funding – Forks Road Bridge Replacement	Amount
Forks Road Bridge Replacement -City’s share	\$833,900
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) - (Provincial/Federal) awarded funding	\$4,166,100
Empire Communities funding	\$8,784,400
Total Approved Funding	\$13,784,400

Media Release



“Awarding the tender for the bridge replacement is a significant step forward in replacing the bridge,” said Sherri-Marie Millar, director of infrastructure services. “We know the community has been waiting for this work to begin, and we are now one step closer.”

Overall, the City received and reviewed six tenders for the project. Submissions opened on September 19 and closed on October 18.

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