



## Protective turtle fencing installed around Third Crossing project area

**KINGSTON, ONT./June 12, 2019**

Special turtle-exclusion fencing has been installed around the Third Crossing's project area.

"Just as we put up construction fencing to keep people safe, this fencing is being installed to keep turtles safe in their own habitat," says Mark Van Buren, deputy commissioner, major projects. "Protecting wildlife, habitat and the ecosystem is a key priority for the Third Crossing's project team."

To protect against adverse effects to Blanding's Turtle, Snapping Turtles, Painted Turtles, Northern Map Turtles and other native turtles who may use or be in the project area, turtle exclusion fencing has been installed to prevent turtles from nesting within areas which will be used for the project. Throughout the project:

- Visual surveys will be conducted to ensure the fencing is effective and that turtles are protected from construction activities and equipment on the shorelines.
- If turtles are encountered in the construction area, trained environmental professionals will be onsite to assess and address the situation to minimize harm to local wildlife.
- All efforts are being made to ensure activities are timed to occur outside the sensitive overwintering and nest season.

In addition, mitigation measures will be in place as the project team is committed to being environmental stewards during the pre-construction and construction of the project. These include implementing a series of plans and procedures to ensure

the proposed activities are reflective of the City's responsibility to protect and preserve lands and waters within the project area.

The project to build the 1.2 km Third Crossing bridge over the Cataraqui River – from the foot of Gore Street in the east to the foot of John Counter Boulevard in the west – is on track and early work continues to prepare for in-water construction. Expect to see construction equipment on the east and west shores as crews conduct utility work, grading and otherwise prepare these sites for activity.

Learn more about Third Crossing on our website: [ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca](https://ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca)

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## **About The Third Crossing Bridge**

Once completed, the new 1.2 km bridge will connect the east and west sides of Kingston over the Cataraqui River. The two-lane bridge will improve emergency services, increase active transportation through a multi-use pedestrian and bike pathway, create greater business connectivity and enhance the quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kingston. The bridge is jointly funded by the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Kingston.

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## **Keeping You Connected**

Learn more about Third Crossing at our website:

[\*\*ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca\*\*](https://ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca)

Send us an email:

[\*\*thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca\*\*](mailto:thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca)

Your comments and participation continue to be important to the project team and to the success of the overall project. Please contact us or join our newsletter.

**HATCH**

**SYSTRA**

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