Turtle Exclusion Fence and Turbidity Curtain to be Installed

Turtles and the protection of local turtle habitat are important considerations for the project team and we continue to learn and hear from residents about this community consideration. To protect turtles in the Cataraqui River during the bridge construction, a turtle fence and turbidity curtain will be installed in the river over the next few weeks.

A turbidity curtain is a flexible, impermeable barrier to contain sediment in water. These curtains are generally weighted at the bottom to ensure sediment doesn't travel under the curtain and is supported at the top through a floatation system. The curtain will be installed completely around the work area.

A turtle fence has been specially designed to attach to the turbidity curtain to prevent turtles from possibly entering the construction areas. This work has been approved by Parks Canada and all the necessary permits / approvals have been received.

A glimpse into the process - what you will see over the next few weeks

As part of installing the turtle fence and turbidity curtain, here are some things you could see:

- First, a drone will capture images of the area and the submerged aquatic vegetation. Only the aquatic vegetation within the turtle exclusion area will be trimmed to help encourage any turtles to leave the immediate area and for easier turtle monitoring during construction.
- Any trimmed vegetation will be placed on shore, above high water, to dry. Once dried, it will be composted.
- The turbidity curtain and turtle fencing will be then be installed in the water.

Upcoming engagement on environmental considerations with Parks Canada

The team has been working closely with Parks Canada over the last several months to ensure the project will not have an adverse impact on the Cataraqui River and the wildlife, vegetation and cultural heritage of the river. Parks Canada has been working with our team on the Detailed Impact Assessment (DIA). As part of the DIA, we will be launching online and in-person engagement, including two open houses and the release of the full DIA document on the project website. We will be sharing these dates of the open houses and posting the full document with our environmental considerations very soon.

Continued communication through construction activity

We appreciate your patience as we start to have more site presence on both the east and west approaches. As work continues we want to ensure we have good communications with our near neighbours. If at any time you would like to speak with member of the project team, please email us at **thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca** and a team member will be in touch.

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.

Keeping You Connected

Learn more about Third Crossing at our website:
ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca

Send us an email:
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.

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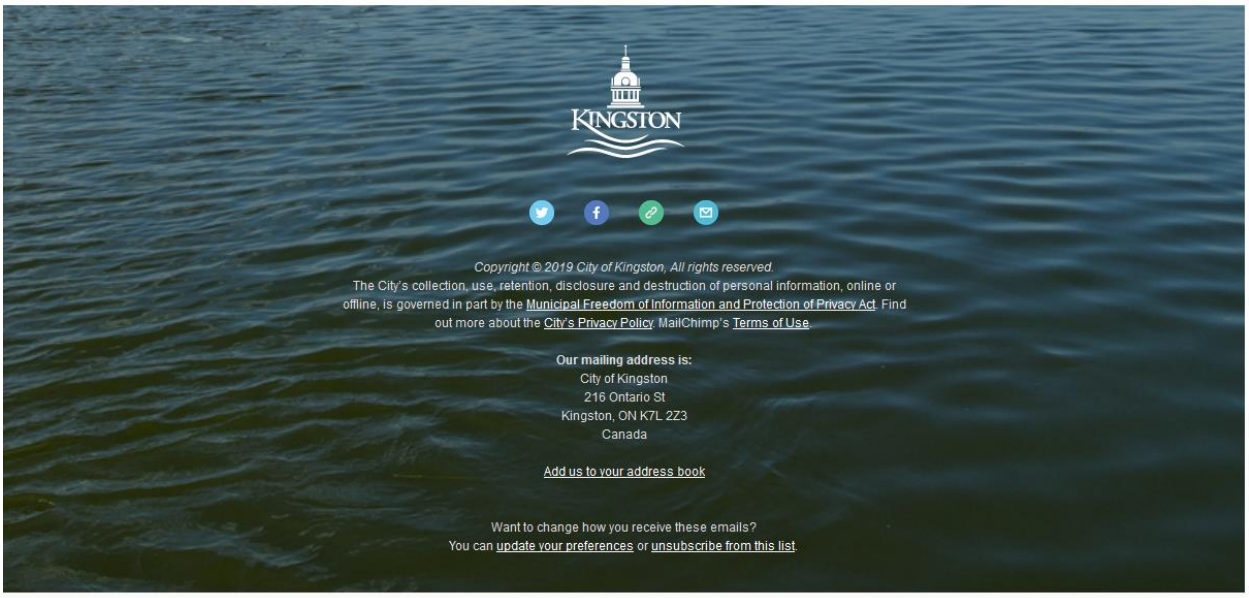

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