



PONT INTERNATIONAL  
**Gordie Howe**  
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

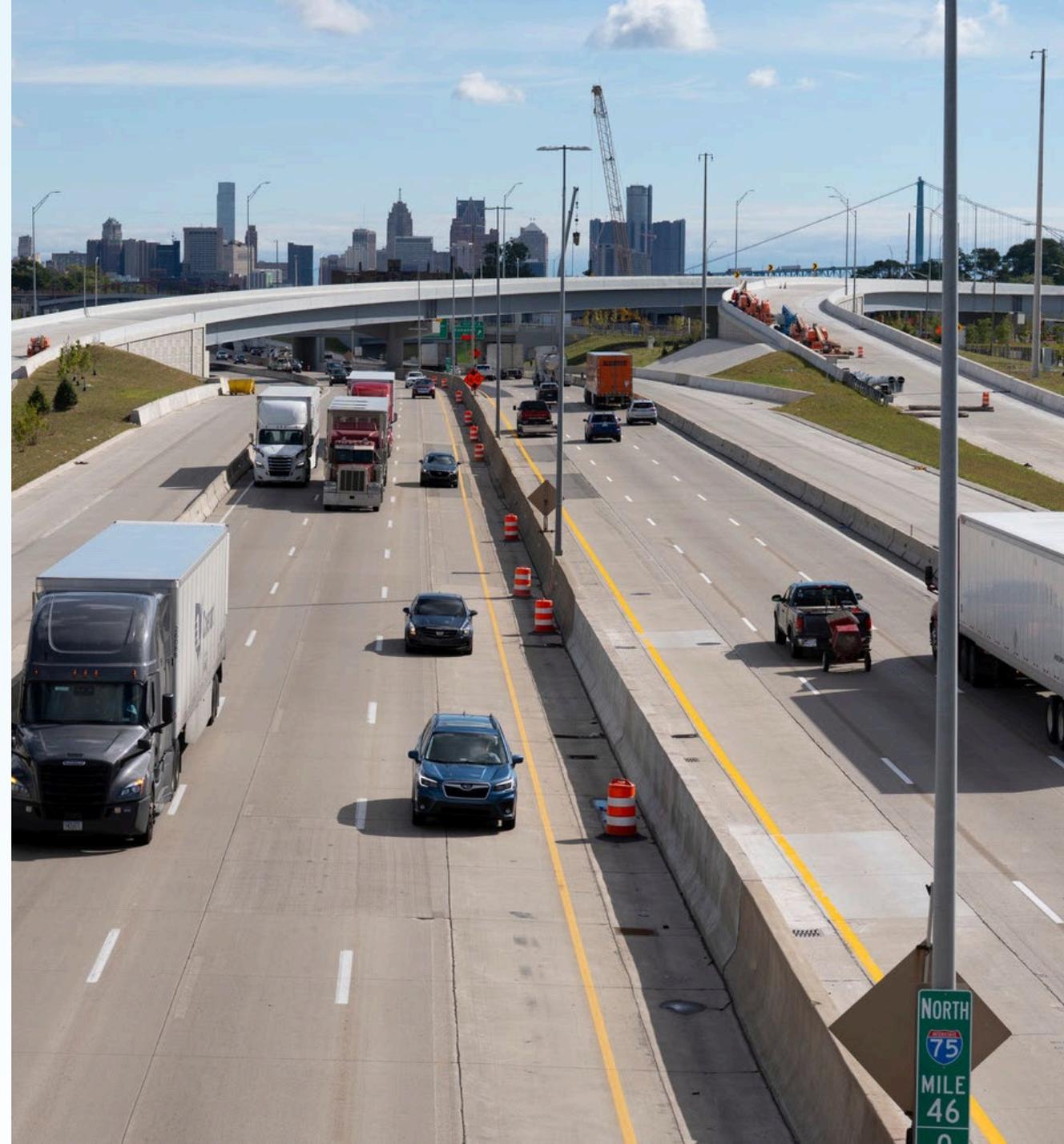
# Bridge Week

March 17-19, 2026



# Trade Insights

- Canada and the US have world's largest trade relationship: **US\$1.95 trillion in 2022**
- Two-way trade in goods & services totaled **US\$919.2 billion** in 2022, roughly **\$2.5 billion/day**
- Canada is the No.1 customer for many US states and accounts for **14.2%** of all US goods exports as of 2022.
- Windsor-Detroit crossing accounts for **nearly 30%** of total US-Canada trade.



# Seamlessly Connecting North America



Redundancy along  
Windsor-Detroit corridor



Improved border  
processing

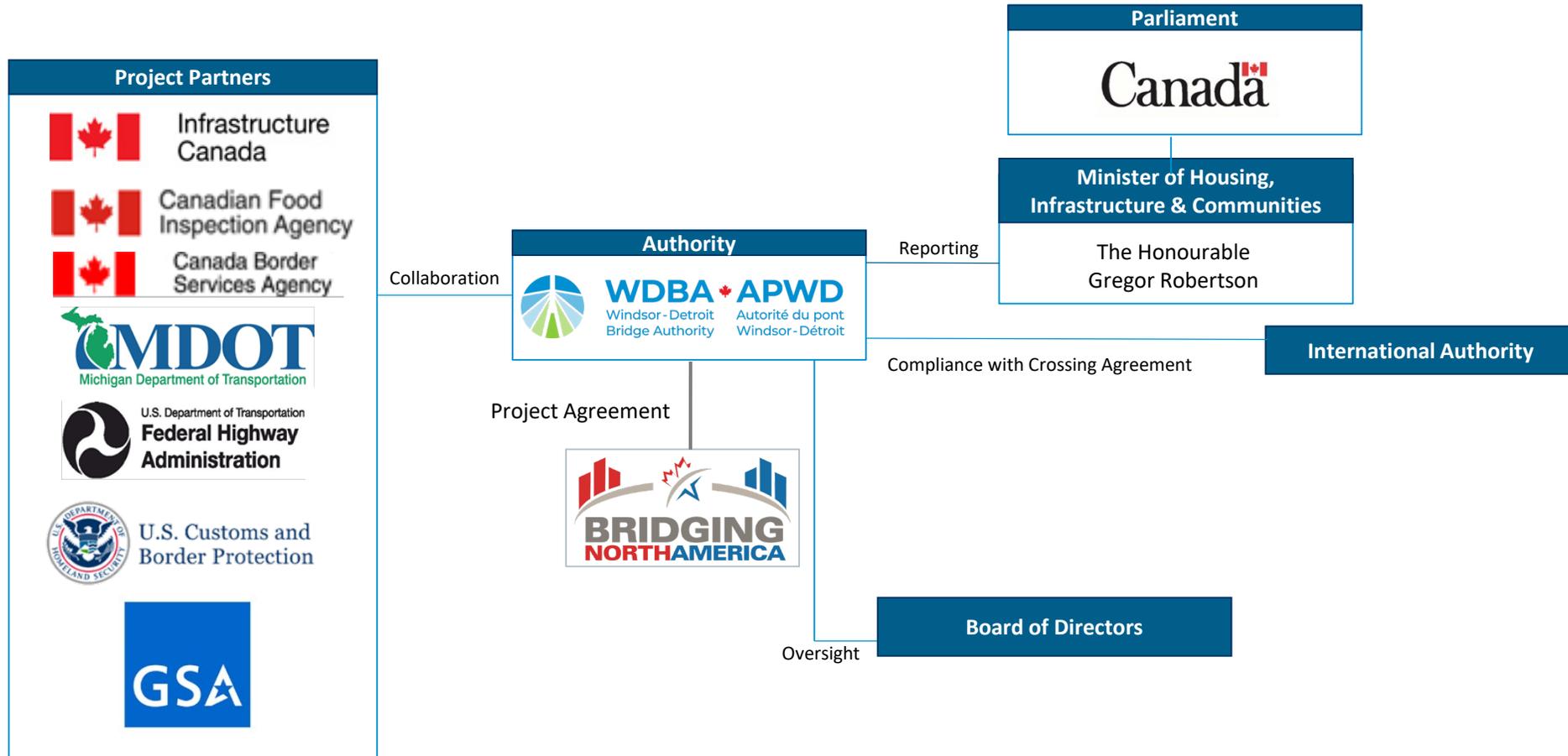


Capacity for current  
and future traffic

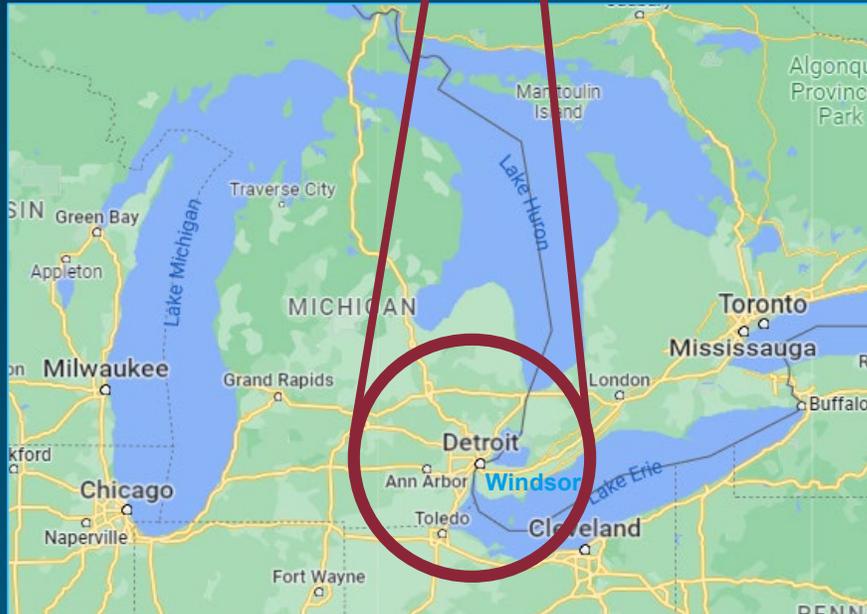


Highway to highway connectivity

# Organizational Structure



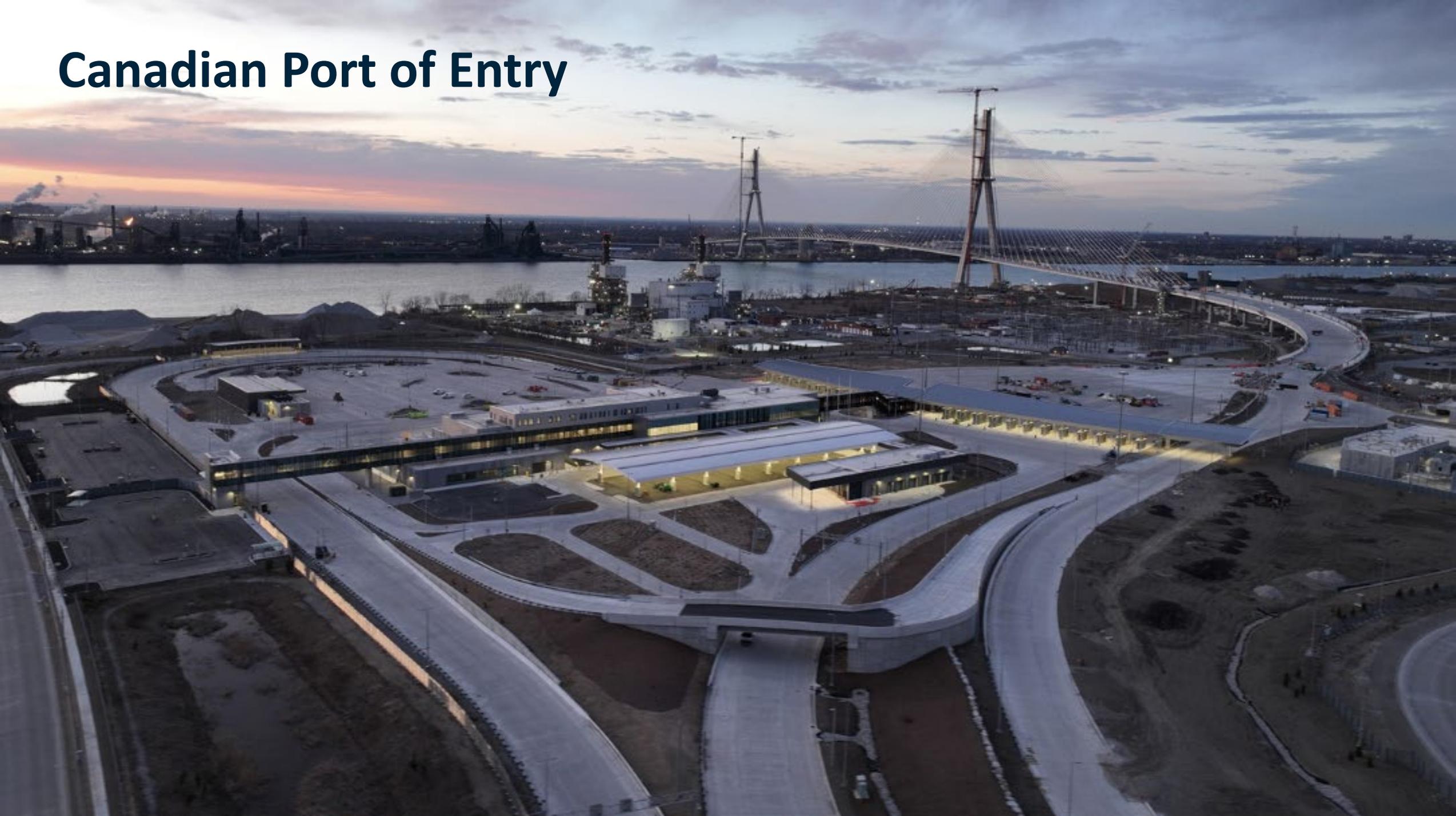
# Project Overview



# The Bridge



# Canadian Port of Entry



# US Port of Entry



# Michigan Interchange (I-75)

US Port of Entry

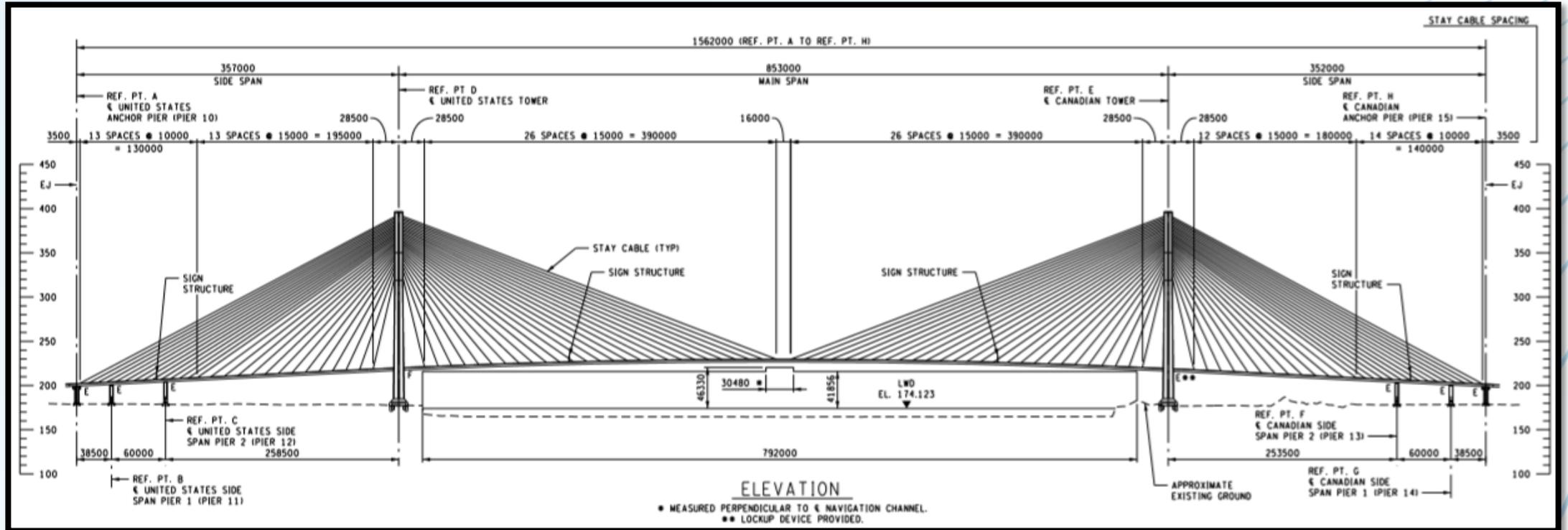
Dedicated ramps  
onto Interstate 75



# Highway 401 in Ontario via the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway



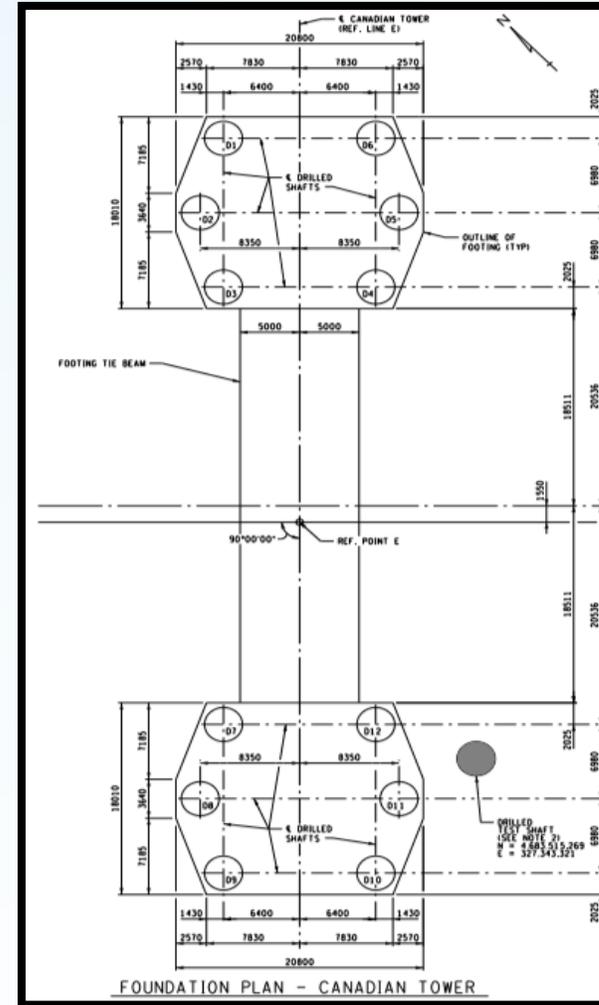
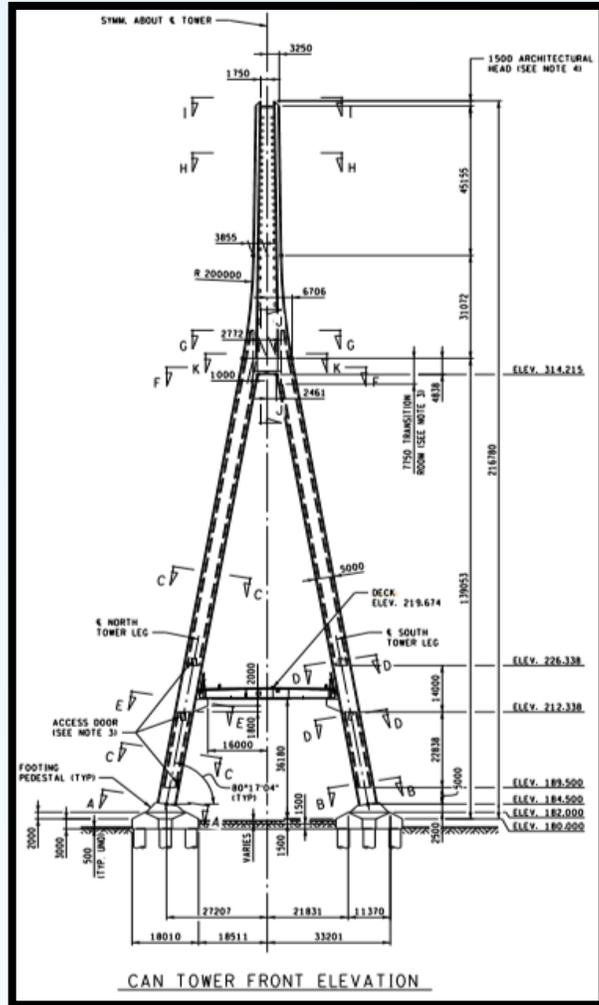
# The Bridge Superstructure



- Tower Height from ground level = 722 feet
- Max. under clearance 152 feet
- Future Configuration 8 lanes – 4 in each direction



# Bridge Superstructure: Tower



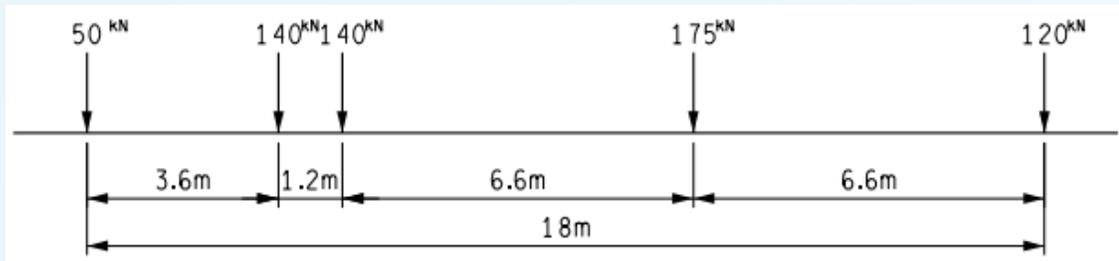
# Dual Design

- “**Dual Design**” means harmonizing between the requirements of the two countries the Bridge connects: Canada and the US.
- **Design phase:** The Engineer of Record (EoR) produces 2 complete sets of calculations (CDN track and US track), and one single set of design plans meeting the most stringent requirements between the CDN track and the US track.

CDN track	USA track
<p><u>Canadian design standards, e.g. :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CSA S6-14 and Commentary</li><li>• MTO standards</li><li>• NRCC</li><li>• Canadian Foundation Engineering Manual</li></ul>	<p><u>US design standards, e.g. :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AASHTO LRFD 8<sup>th</sup> ed.</li><li>• other AASHTO standards</li><li>• MDOT standards</li><li>• FHWA standards</li></ul>
<p><u>Common design standards, e.g. :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PTI M50.3, M55.1, DC45.1</li><li>• FHWA Geotech. Eng. Circ. No.10 (Drilled shafts)</li><li>• fib bulleting 34 &amp; CEB-FIP Model Code 1990</li></ul>	<p><u>Common design standards, e.g. :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PTI M50.3, M55.1, DC45.1</li><li>• FHWA Geotech. Eng. Circ. No.10 (Drilled shafts)</li><li>• fib bulleting 34 &amp; CEB-FIP Model Code 1990</li></ul>

# Bridge Live Load Study

## Canadian Track Design

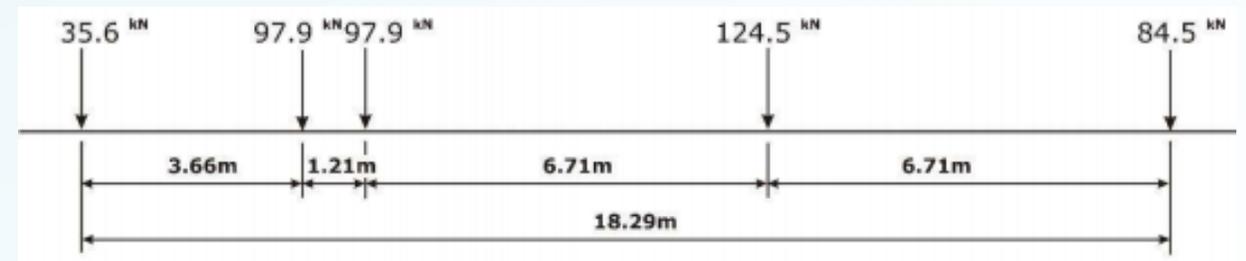


CL-625-ONT Truck Load

Item	Loaded Length (Lc)		
	Lc ≤ 150m (Lc ≤ 500 ft)	150m < Lc ≤ 600m (500 ft < Lc ≤ 2000 ft)	Lc > 600m (Lc > 2000 ft)
Commercial Vehicle Lane	12 kN/m (0.8 k/ft)	12 - (Lc - 150) * 1.5 / 450 kN/m (0.8 - (Lc - 500) * 0.1 / 1500 k/ft)	10.5 kN/m (0.7 k/ft)
Mixed Vehicle Lane	9 kN/m (0.6 k/ft)	9 - (Lc - 150) * 2.5 / 450 kN/m (0.6 - (Lc - 500) * 0.15 / 1500 k/ft)	6.5 kN/m (0.45 k/ft)

CL-W Lane Load

## US Track Design



WDBA-AASHTO Truck Load – 440kN

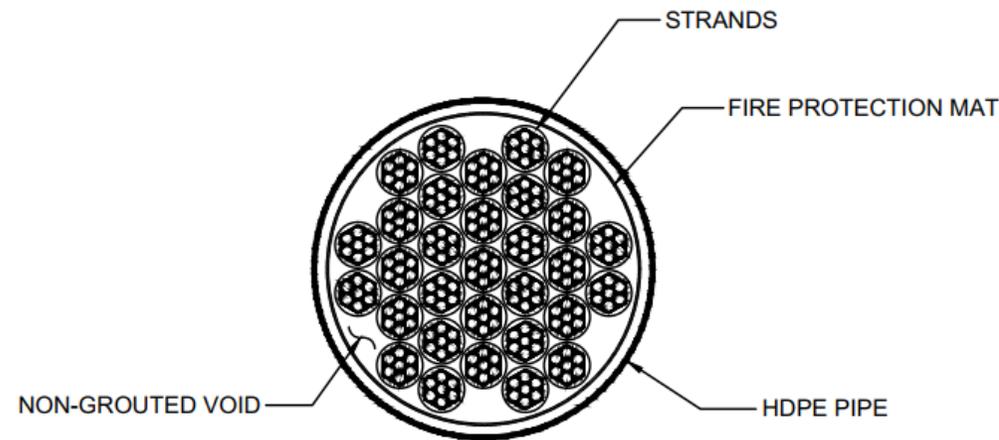
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HL-93 Lane Load

# Special Loading Design

- Extensive initial and future utilities.
- Parade/Marathon Loading (41.8 psf).
- Thermal gradient loading
  - non-linear temperature gradients applied to the deck,
  - $\pm 18^{\circ}\text{F}$  differential between the stay cables and the superstructure,
  - $\pm 18^{\circ}\text{F}$  differential between opposite faces of the towers.
- **Site specific seismic design**
  - Lifeline, irregular, critical structure.
  - Design is based on an elastic response approach
  - A combination of multi-modal elastic response spectrum analysis and elastic time-history analysis
- **Vessel collision considers a**
  - 63,100 DWT vessel
  - 10.4 knot velocity
  - 30 degree heading from the centerline of river channel.
- **Snow loads**
  - During construction allow a 10 PSF snow load before removal is required.
  - In service, shoulders are used for snow storage, with a permissible load of 82 psf load before removal is required.

# Stay Cable System

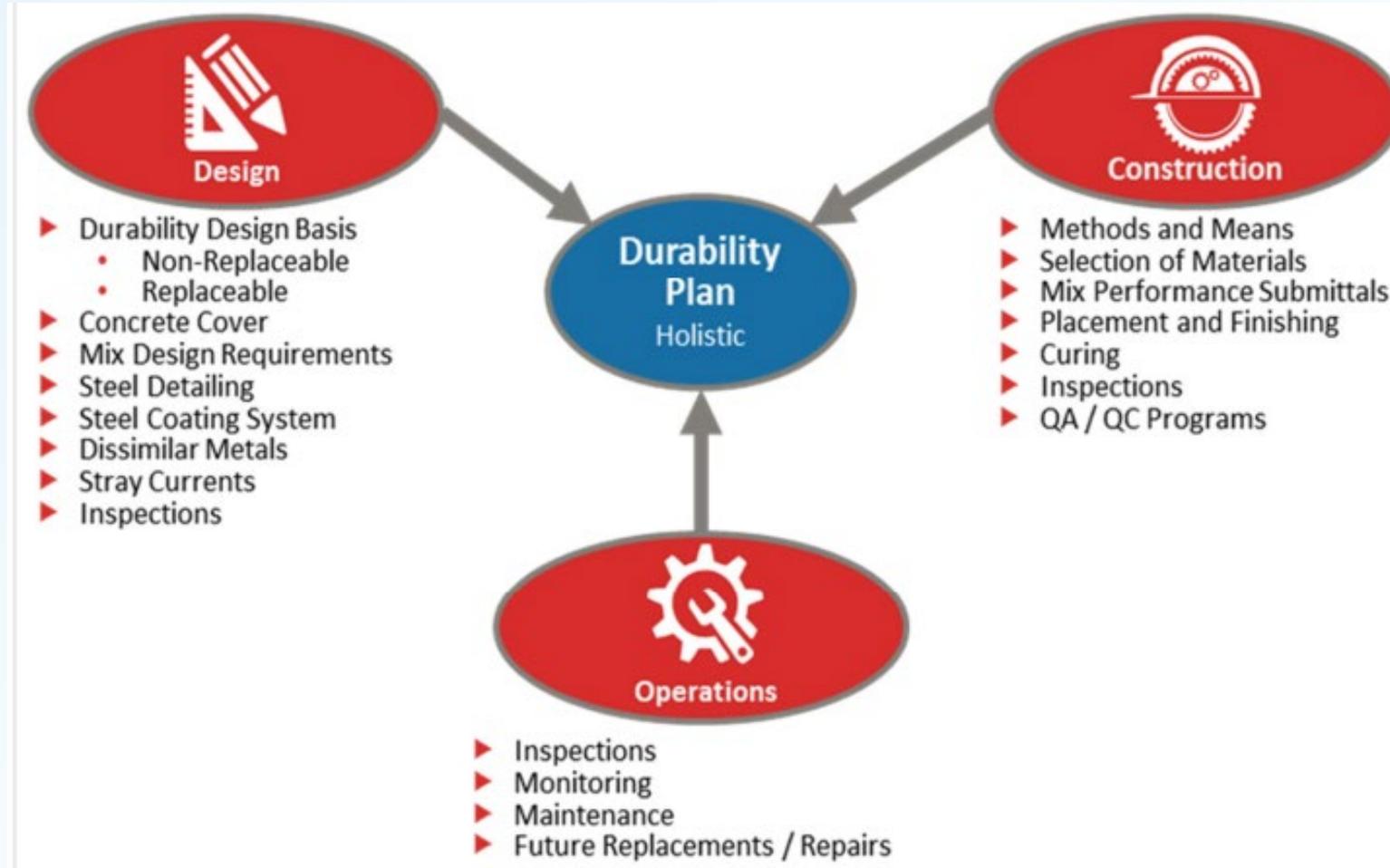


SECTION B-B  
(FIRE PROTECTION)

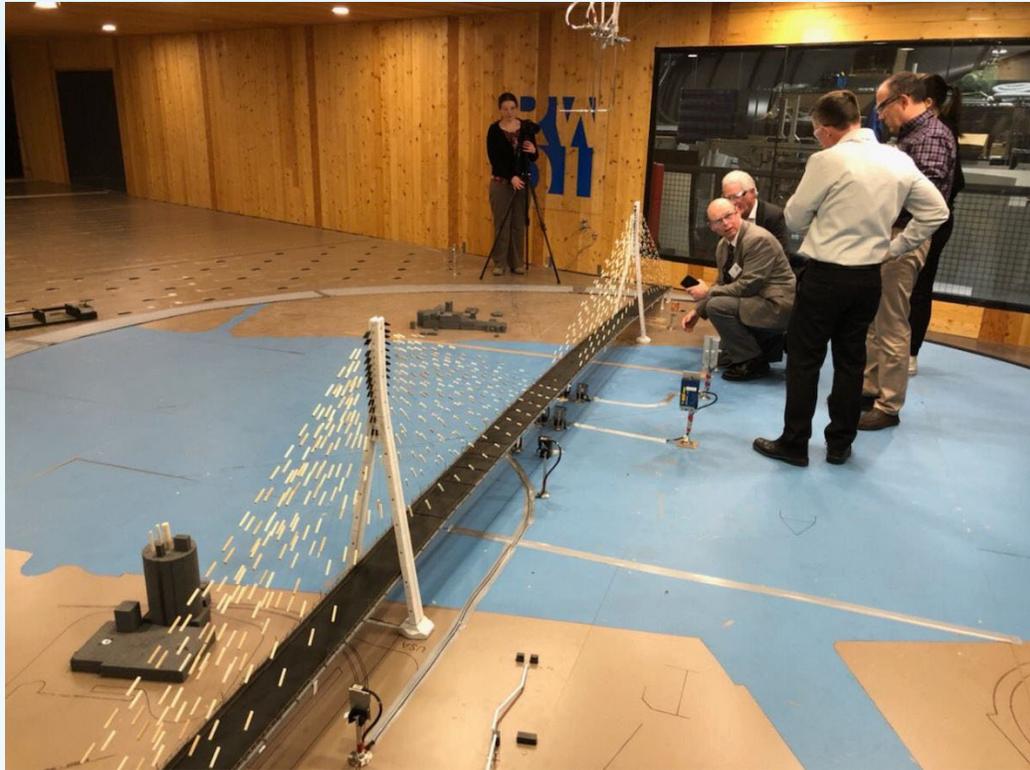
The cable-stayed system will include 216 parallel strand stay cables strung from the tower to the bridge deck.

- Parallel 0.6” diameter grade 270 post tensioning strand
- Sizing ranging from 38 to 121 strands per cable
- Greased and sheathed strand, encased in outer polyethylene sheath
- Design for passive and future active ice control measures

# Factors Affecting Service Life and Durability



# Wind Tunnel Testing



- Wind tunnel testing is an essential component for the Gordie Howe International Bridge.
- Using an Aeroelastic model, which is inside of a wind tunnel is a full-size model of the bridge that is part of the design process.
- It allows us to get the design loading right and ensure the stability of the structure.

# Wind Tunnel Testing Section Model

- Section Model Testing
  - Proposal Phase
  - Design Phase
- Scale 1:65
- Investigation of
  - Static Drag
  - Flutter Stability
  - Vortex induced oscillations
  - Buffeting
  - Vehicle Overturning



# Wind Tunnel Testing Aeroelastic Model



- Full Aeroelastic Model
  - Scale 1:230
  - Verification of performance for:
    - - Flutter
    - - Vortex Shedding
    - - Buffeting
    - - Construction stages

# Wind Tunnel Testing Tower Model



- Tower Model Testing for:
  - Static drag
  - Final and erection stages
  - Aerodynamic Stability
  - Interaction with Tower Crane

# Latex Modified Concrete Overlay

- Wearing surface on the deck
- Located along Main span over the precast deck panels
- 1.97 in thick
- Currently being placed on the MUT
- Protects steel from freeze-thaw cycles





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# Bridge Construction Update



# Bridge Foundations

## Canadian and US Foundations

- 10 ft. diameter Drilled Shafts – founded on rock
- Factored ultimate compressive strength on each shaft = 17,000 tons
- Loading/construction method verified by Osterberg cell load test
- Individual footing under each tower leg, joined by a post tensioned tie.



# Bridge Tower Foundations

## Foundations

- 9.8 ft diameter drilled shafts
- 12 per tower, 2 per side span pier
- 121 ft deep including 4-20ft rock sockets
- 1,700 tons reinforcing steel

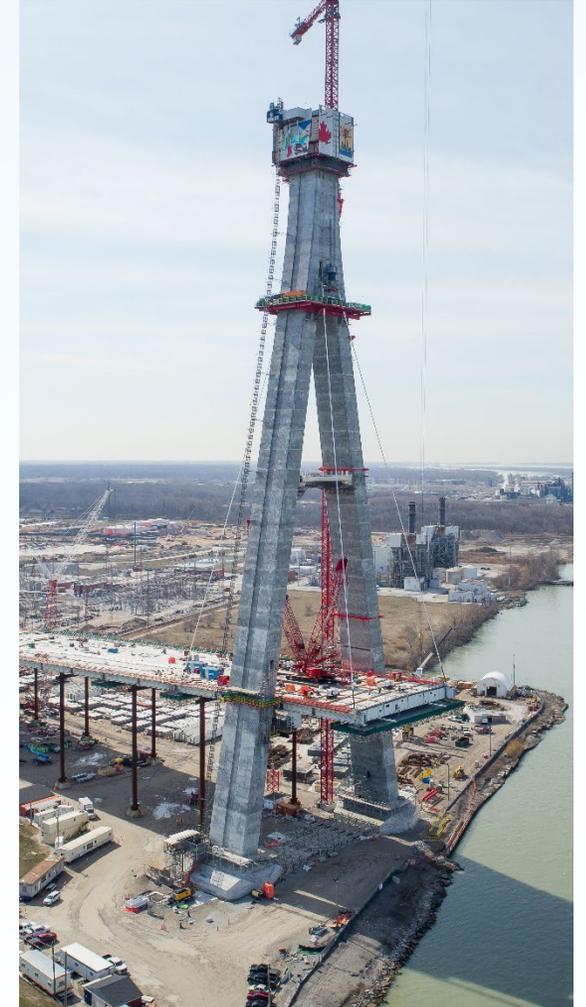
## Tower Footings

- First pour: 35,314 ft<sup>3</sup> concrete
- Footings complete: 268,390 ft<sup>3</sup> concrete
- 1,900 tons of reinforcing steel



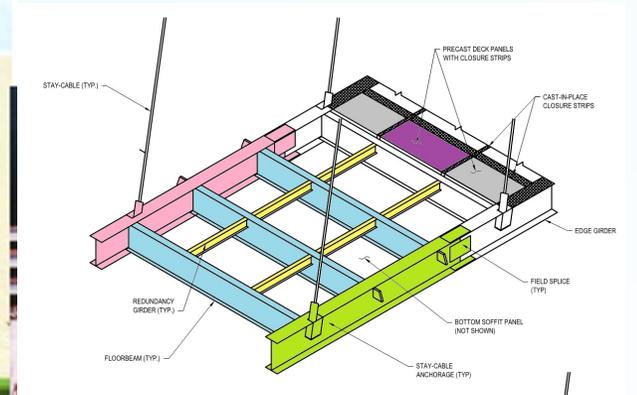
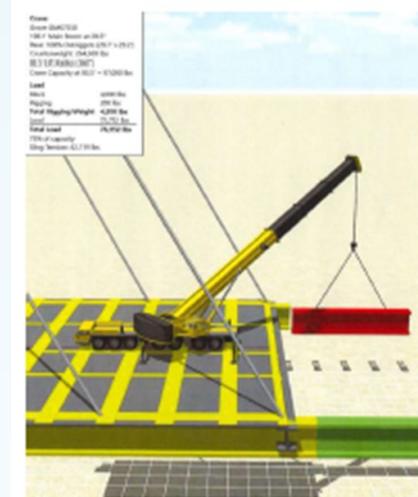
# Bridge Tower Legs

- 34.3 lb/ft<sup>3</sup> reinforcing steel density per tower lift
- 29 lifts per leg
- Steel for each leg was preassembled in jigs



# Bridge Deck

- Erecting from land
- Unbalanced canti-lever system; stick build
- Build back span using temporary towers while main concrete towers are being constructed
- Main span will be constructed with the



# Side Spans

## Side Span Construction on Temporary Piers

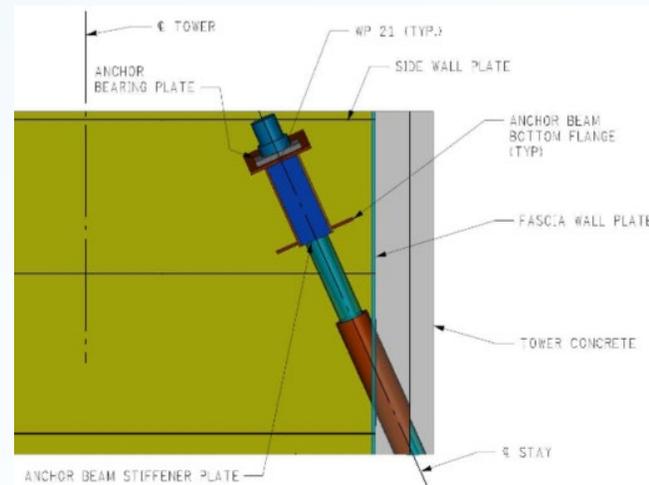
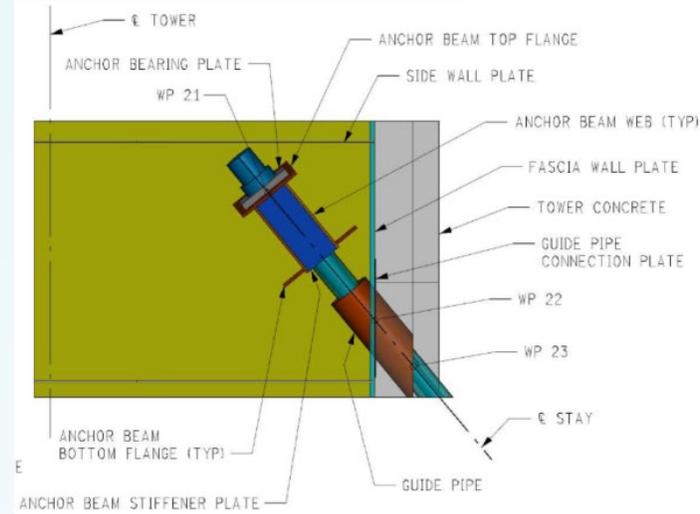
- 9 temporary piers support the superstructure construction of each side span
- 3.9 ft diameter by column piers with 0.98 in wall thickness, ranging in height from 72 ft to 118 ft
- This setup allows for side span construction to proceed ahead of construction over the river



# Bridge Approach



# Bridge Tower Anchor Boxes



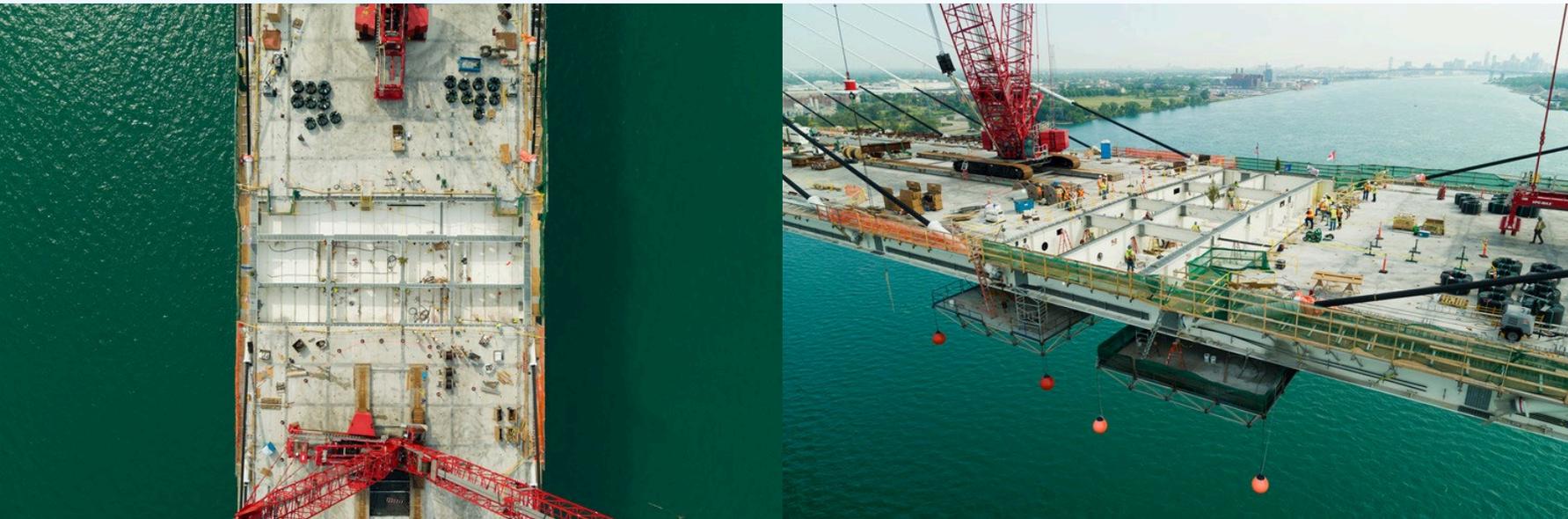
- 35 anchor boxes in each tower head
  - 27 anchor boxes
  - 8 permanent form boxes
- Each box weighs 30 - 40 tons
- Stay cable guide angle changes as tower height increases and cables

# Bridge Tower Completion



# Main Span Deck Connection

- Construction divided into 27 segments from each tower.
- Tied together in a single 28<sup>th</sup> segment at the center of the main span.
- Deck connection completed June 2024



# Stay Cable Installation

## Construction Progress: Stay Cable Installation

- 216 stay cables
- 38 to 122 steel strands per cable
- 2980 miles of unstressed steel strand
- Cable stressing continues in stages





# Connecting the Gordie Howe International Bridge





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# Stay connected

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 Gordie Howe Bridge

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