

Garden City Sky Outreach

IO-MTO recently held market sounding/project structuring commercially confidential meetings with interested parties for the Garden City Skyway (GCS) procurement opportunity, during the week of March 20, 2023. There was limited involvement of traditional Ministry contractors.

Project Details

- The GCS is a new 2.25km twinned structure to carry QEW Toronto bound traffic once in final configuration over the Welland Canal between St Catharines and Niagara on the Lake. The structure will be built to the north of the existing structure. Bridge type has yet to be determined and will be selected within the context of the procurement model, when selected.
- The Current Reference Concept Design (RCD) design is a concrete deck on steel girders
- In addition to the RCD, MTO has completed a Preliminary Design and obtained environmental approvals for the project. Baseline information exists regarding stakeholder consultants / agreements, utilities, foundations and other investigations.
- Interim staging will see both directions of travel on new structure while existing structure is rehabilitated in the future. The project includes numerous realignments of local roads, relocation of affected utilities.
- The existing bridge has 48 spans, while the new structure has 24 proposed spans, with a 145m-160m steel girder main span.
- Construction is expected to start in summer 2024, and end in winter 2028/spring 2029.
- There are numerous stakeholders including the Saint Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, Transport Canada, Niagara Airport Authority, Niagara Region, City of St. Catharines, utility companies, property owners.

The ministry is interested in industry feedback on:

1. The risk profile of the project, and how this may impact the select delivery model
 - forms of contract delivery may include DBB, DB, DBF, , CMGC or other forms of progressive delivery models such as Progressive DB
2. Are there aspects of these models that create barriers or concerns with the industry, and if so, what are the major concerns of industry? Are there suggestions/mitigations that can help overcome these barriers?
3. How does the industry see participating in this project?
4. Does the industry foresee any capacity issues related to the construction timing – summer 2024 through spring 2029?

5. Does the size of project create insurance and bonding issues? Does the model selected impact insurance and bonding requirements?