



# Osborne Update



## BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 2009

### Neighbourhood Advisory Committee (NAC)

**ARTS AND CULTURE**  
Gas Station Theatre

**BUSINESS**  
Osborne Village BIZ  
Downtown BIZ

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNER**  
Great West Life

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**  
Osborne Village Community Gardens  
West Broadway Development Corporation  
Gertrude McMillan Neighbourhood Group

**CYCLING/ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**  
Bike to the Future

**GOVERNMENT**  
Legislative Building

**HERITAGE**  
Manitoba Historical Society

**PROPERTY MANAGERS – RESIDENTIAL**  
Globe General Agencies  
Manitoba Property Managers Association

**REGIONAL**  
Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

**RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**  
Augustine United Church

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

**CITY OF WINNIPEG DEPARTMENTS**  
Public Works  
Planning Property and Development  
Transit

**CONSULTANTS**  
Wardrop Engineering  
Dillon Consulting  
Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram  
Landscape Architects

**CONSULTANTS**  
**COLLABORATIVE PLANNING/PUBLIC CONSULTATION**  
Susan Freig and Associates

*Some additional NAC positions  
soon to be confirmed*

## What is the Osborne Bridge Project?

The twin Osborne Street Bridge is scheduled for rehabilitation beginning in 2011. The project extends from River Avenue to Broadway along Osborne Street, and will involve developing measures to preserve and upgrade the bridge and its approach roadways, while taking into account present and future social, economic, land use, and transportation considerations. These will be consistent with City Council policies such as:

- \* Aesthetics of Public Works Projects
- \* Guidelines for Citizen Participation in Public Works Projects
- \* Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision
- \* Accessibility Design Standards - Universal Design Guidelines
- \* Osborne Village Secondary Plan

The conceptual planning phase will include comprehensive public consultation.

The budget for rehabilitating the bridge, and associated road works, is approximately \$17 million.

The City of Winnipeg recognizes the area's unique and complex community. Osborne Village has the highest concentration of residents in Winnipeg, and its unique shops, restaurants, artists, active community groups and mixed use developments contribute to its urban village character. There is heavy pedestrian, cyclist and transit use among residents in surrounding neighbourhoods, so accommodating their needs are priorities. The bridge also connects suburban commuters to downtown and other surrounding neighbourhoods. Given all these conditions, a collaborative planning process will be undertaken.



## What is a collaborative planning process?

Collaborative planning is an effective planning and decision-making process, where members of a group develop a plan by exploring and evaluating options, and reaching consensus on the preferred option. Creative solutions that meet the needs of the community and stakeholders are developed by pooling the wisdom of each specialty: local communities' knowledge, specialized interest/advocacy groups and professional expertise.

## Who will be involved in the Collaborative Planning Process?

A Neighbourhood Advisory Committee (NAC) will be formed including representatives of sectors and communities who are affected by the project or have an interest in it. These would include area residents, business owners, community organizations and special interest groups. Committee members participate as representatives of a broader constituency rather than as individuals, to ensure the view of the community or organizations represented is heard, rather than personal opinions.

A series of meetings will be held through the fall, in which the NAC will receive pertinent background information, including a Community Profile and Implications Assessment of surrounding neighbourhoods as well as technical information about the project. Then, working with municipal representatives and with project goals and other factors in mind, NAC members will develop conceptual options for the project.

Other stakeholders will be involved in developing the conceptual plan and schedule, including various city department representatives, project consultants, and government agencies representing, for example, waterways, parks and heritage, as required.



## Why does the bridge have to be rehabilitated?

Over the years, extensive repairs have been done to the bridge's concrete deck, sidewalks and median, due to high traffic and corrosion of reinforcing steel from deicing salts. The median deck overhangs are substantially corroded. They have required regular patching and removal of loose and deteriorated concrete. These repairs are no longer effective at preserving the bridge and a long term solution is needed. The approach roadways also need to be studied to see if roadside safety improvements are needed as part of the project. A project traffic impact study will also be done.

The 33-year-old bridge is heavily used by cyclists and pedestrians, so the rehabilitation project also means an opportunity to improve their transportation access and safety across the bridge and within the project area. Although widening the bridge substructure (foundations and piers) is outside the project scope and approximately \$17 million budget, the engineering consultants are working on ideas to widen the usable area of the existing bridge without adding additional girders or substructure. Available space in some areas on either side of the bridge could limit widening.

This project is expected to extend the lifespan of the bridge for another 75 years with routine maintenance and periodic renewal.

## What factors will be considered in the planning process?

The need to serve residential, commercial, office, retail, entertainment, and employment sectors in the surrounding communities is clear. There is a rich inventory of heritage and architecturally-significant buildings. Current and potential conflicts among all modes of transportation and between the regional transportation system and the neighbourhood require balance. Maintaining and enriching the pedestrian environment and experience is key. At the same time, the regional streets in the area must be considered among other neighbourhood issues like safety and security concerns, homelessness, and people sleeping under the south side of the bridge. These factors will influence planning decisions.



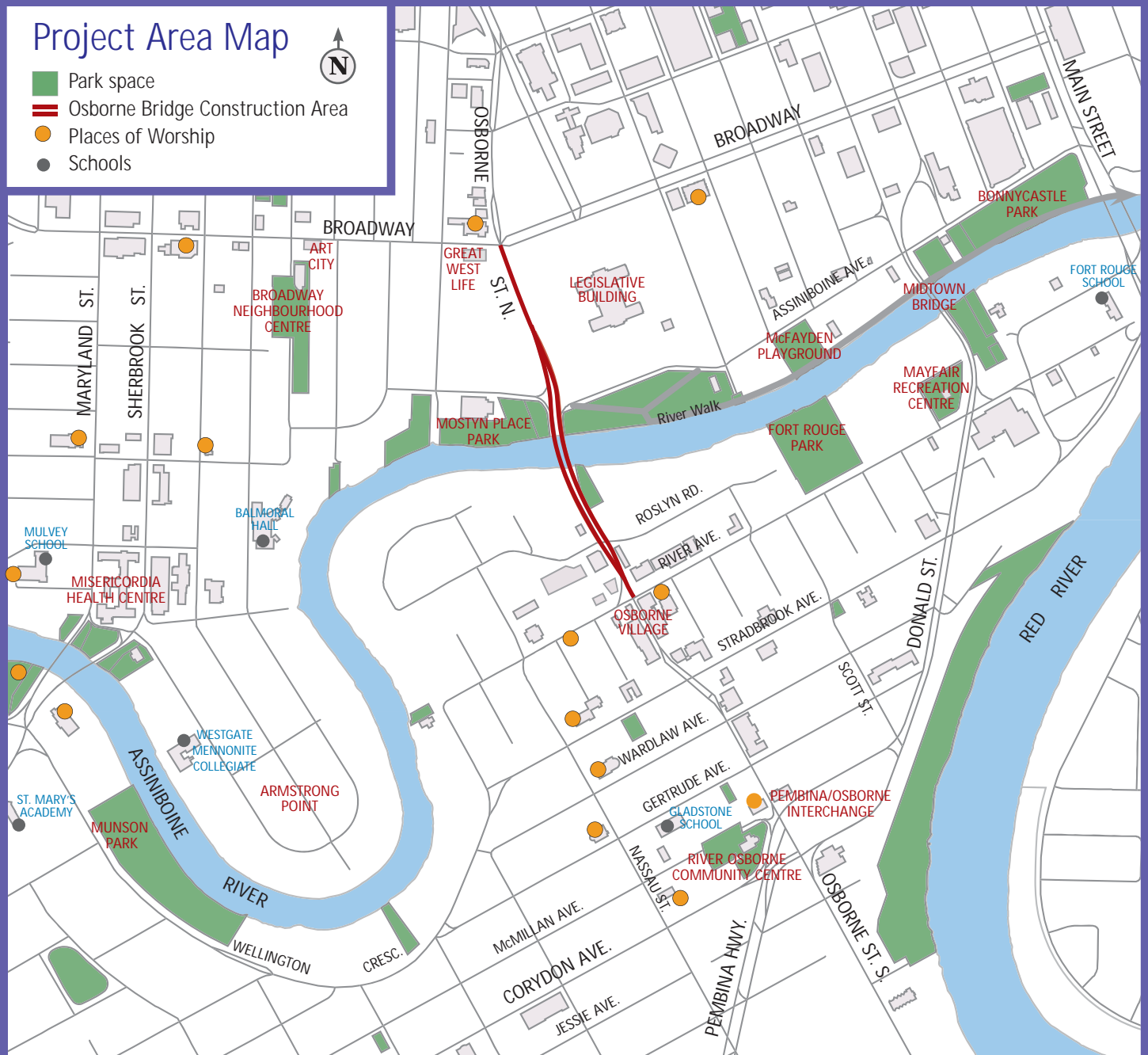
# Overall Project Goals

- \* Safe
- \* Technically sound
- \* Functional for all
- \* Consistent with City of Winnipeg policies and guidelines including pedestrian and cyclist needs
- \* Economical - good value
- \* Environmentally responsible
- \* Aesthetically pleasing
- \* Reflects the needs and contributes to the community
- \* Understood and accepted by most of those affected



## Project Area Map

- Park space
- Osborne Bridge Construction Area
- Places of Worship
- Schools



## What about neighbourhood concerns during construction?

Part of the collaborative process will identify neighbourhood concerns during construction (such as traffic congestion, parking, noise and safety) and develop mitigation measures to help minimize these problems. A monitoring and communication plan will also be developed and put into effect.

## How can I have a say in the project?

A comprehensive public consultation and communication plan will inform the community and interested stakeholders about the conceptual planning process and progress, and provide opportunities for public feedback. Options being considered will be shared with the public through display ads in major newspapers, a second newsletter, random and targeted surveys, and an open house. The public will be asked to provide feedback about the options for the NAC to consider before completing the planning process. After the final NAC meeting and preparation of the public consultation report, the recommended plan will be presented at a community meeting where there will be opportunities to comment.

## Project Timelines

Collaborative Planning Process – NAC meetings	Fall 2009
Public Consultation – Broad public input	Winter 2010
Conceptual Design	March 2010
Preliminary Design	Summer 2010
Detailed Design	Winter 2010
Construction (not confirmed)	2011 and 2012 construction seasons

## Project Contact

More detailed descriptions of the evolution and components of the project will be provided on the future project website at: [www.winnipeg.ca](http://www.winnipeg.ca)

For further information contact:

Matt Chislett, P. Eng., Project Manager,  
City of Winnipeg Public Works Department  
106 - 1155 Pacific Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 3P1  
Fax: 986-5302  
Email: [mchislett@winnipeg.ca](mailto:mchislett@winnipeg.ca)  
Media inquiries please call: 986-6000

