PIC Frequently Asked Questions, July 15, 2025

Question: Why is this new bridge over the Scugog River required?

The need for additional capacity was first recognized in 1960 and later reconfirmed in the 1970's and 1980's. The 1994 Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study and subsequent EA Amendment in 2000 recommended a Scugog River bridge crossing at Colborne Street.

The location of a new bridge along Colborne Street was determined through the Council Report (Scugog River Bridge Crossing) dated September 22, 2015. This report specified that a previously identified crossing demand threshold had been reached, triggering the need for additional capacity.

Question: Are you improving the road network within the City?

Yes, since the need for additional capacity has been identified. Providing a new continuous link within the existing cross-town arterial road network will provide present/future relief to traffic congestion white, maximizing the use of the existing road network.

Question: Why is a tied arch bridge preferred over other conventional bridge types?

Tied arch bridges are often favored over other conventional bridge types, such as beam or truss bridges, due to their unique combination of strength, high aesthetics, and efficiency to span longer distances.

As the Colborne Street Bridge will be located near Downtown Lindsay in a highly visible area over Scugog River within the Trent-Severn National Historic sites, which is frequented by a high volume of trait and waterway users, this arch bridge will represent an iconic structure for the City of Kawartha Lakes. The highly aesthetic arch bridge will be very sympathetic to the cultural heritage of the historic Trent-Severn Waterway.

Question: Are pedestrian facilities across the new bridge being provided? Yes, the new bridge will include a two (2) metre-wide sidewalk on either side of the bridge and applicable facilities on the approaches.

Question: What intersection improvements on the east and west approaches are completed as part of this project?

To facilitate the forecasted traffic volumes across the new bridge, signalized intersections will be installed along Colborne Street at William Street North and Lindsay Street North as part of the proposed works. These intersections will also include dedicated turning lanes to improve their overall capacity.

Question: Will access to the existing north-south portion *of* Colborne Street, to Pottinger Street, be maintained?

A new access road, to the north of Colborne Street, off William Street North will be completed as part of the proposed works. This access road is to include pedestrian facilities.

Question: When is construction planned?

Based on the anticipated tendering date and pending budget approval by Council, construction is planned for late 2026 and is expected to be completed in 2028.

Additional Question, updated November 5, 2025

Question: What will be the vertical clearance for boats passing under the bridge?

The Colborne Street Bridge will feature a waterway clearance of approximately 4.5 metres from the normal water level. This clearance is consistent with the Wellington Street Bridge located to the south and is considered appropriate for this section of the Trent-Severn Waterway.