

MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE



To / Destinataire	Chair King and Members of the Built Heritage Sub-Committee / Président King et membres du Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti	
From / Expéditeur	Lesley Collins Program Manager, Heritage Planning Branch / Gestionnaire de programme, Direction de la planification du patrimoine Planning, Real Estate and Economic Development department / Direction générale de la planification, de l'immobilier et du développement économique Sajjad Haque Program Manager, Infrastructure Renewal / Gestionnaire de programme, Renouvellement de l'infrastructure Infrastructure and Water Services Department / Direction générale des services d'infrastructure et d'eau	
Subject / Objet	Old Rideau River CPR rail bridge / Ancien pont ferroviaire du CPR sur la rivière Rideau	Date: June 16, 2022 / 16 juin 2022

This memo provides additional information further to Member Padolsky's memo of May 12, 2022 regarding the renewal of the former CPR Rail bridge over the Rideau River.

The historic CPR railway bridge was constructed in 1898 and has a steel superstructure with timber decking, and a substructure constructed of masonry piers and abutments that have been encased in concrete. Based on the City's records, the bridge has undergone three major rehabilitations in 1939, 1952 and 1999. The bridge currently shows advanced deterioration and is being inspected annually to ensure safety until the renewal can take place.

The bridge has no heritage status, it is not designated or listed on the City of Ottawa Heritage Register.

In 2018, the City retained Parsons Inc. to conduct a condition assessment and renewal scoping study for the bridge. The assessment is attached to this memo. The report presented two options: major rehabilitation or structure replacement. The rehabilitation option would have a 25-year service life and the replacement option would have a 75-year service life. Based on engineering assessments, staff in the Asset Management Branch have made a primary determination that the replacement option is preferred; however, a detailed evaluation of both alternatives will take place through the Environmental Assessment (EA) process.

Because of its age, the ["Municipal Heritage Bridges Cultural, Heritage and Archaeological Resources Assessment Checklist"](#) will be applied, which is a requirement through the Municipal Class EA process. A Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) will be undertaken

and followed-up with a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), if applicable. Staff in the Heritage Planning Branch will be consulted on both documents. The purpose of the CHER is to evaluate the cultural heritage value of the bridge according to the criteria prescribed under Ontario Heritage Act through O.Reg 09/06. The CHER will also make recommendations regarding a Heritage Impact Assessment.

This work will be completed as part of the upcoming EA process and there will be public consultation on a variety of issues including heritage and active transportation. As this bridge serves several municipal wards, staff will also work with local Councillors' office to further engage interested community associations. The EA will help determine the recommended solution for this project. Given the Committee's interest in this bridge, staff will provide an update by memo once the CHER and any HIA (if applicable) are available for consultation.

If you have any questions about this project please contact Sajjad Haque, Program Manager, Infrastructure Renewal, Sajjad.Haque@ottawa.ca or Lesley Collins, Program Manager, Heritage Planning Branch, Lesley.Collins@ottawa.ca

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