

Frequently Asked Questions

Q) What are the benefits of the project?

A) The implementation of the OLC is projected to create an additional 8.8\$M in Gross Domestic Product, and \$700k in government tax revenues, annually.

Q) How much will it cost?

A) The OLC has an estimated cost of \$17M +/- 10%, as of 2020, including improvements to the Port of Sarnia.

Q) Why have we seen a project cost increase from the original estimate?

A) The original estimate was based on high level engineering work in 2015 with current construction costs and design standards at that time. The largest cause of the increase is that electrical design standards were changed in 2016, after the original estimate was completed, which added significant requirements to the scope of the work. The revised estimate is provided with detailed engineering design work having been completed for the road and electrical utility portions with construction costs updated to present day standards.

Q) Has partner funding been secured for the project?

A) Funding partnerships have been secured through the Federal Government's National Trade Corridor Fund, Cestar College, The County of Lambton, Sarnia-Lambton Industrial Alliance, as well as the City of Sarnia. The team has also applied for an additional funding through the Southwestern Ontario Development Fund and will be awaiting a decision by April of 2020.

Q) Who is responsible for potential cost increases?

A) The City of Sarnia would be responsible for any cost over runs if they occur.

Q) What are the risks for cost increases at this stage?

A) With the roadwork and utility portions now completed detailed design the risk of significant cost increases are low in those aspects. The harbour front dock is the largest outstanding risk for the overall cost of the project, the detailed design was awarded at the Feb. 10th, 2020 Council meeting. The Council Report, which can be found on the website, summarizes some of the risk and uncertainty related to this component. As the detailed design is completed, mitigating cost increases will be a priority. Early reporting will be provided for any issues or major cost impacts that arise

Q) What improvements are planned for the Port of Sarnia as part of the OLC project?

A) The mini-dock at the end of Exmouth Street will be extended and improved to add capacity for shipboard and shore crane lifting as well as roll-on/roll-off loading and unloading at this facility.