Township of Centre Wellington

Bridge and Transportation Network Study

Bridges 21-WG, 29-WG & 30-WG

Public Open House Comment Summary

Summary of Open House

- Open house held on June 10th, 2025, at the Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex
- Virtual Presentation also posted online
- Project Team was on site to answer questions and provide additional information
- Residents were asked on comment sheets to rank the bridges for importance to them and their priorities for re-opening.
- 38 attendees signed in, 22 comment sheets were submitted at the POH, 1 comment sheet was received via email

Public Input on Bridge Importance

Question:

How important is the bridge being open to vehicle traffic to you? Please rank the bridges from 0 (No need for bridge to be open) to 5 (Opening the bridge without any restrictions is of critical importance):

Response:

Bridge ID	Mean Score	Mode Score	Rank
29-WG	4.25	5	1
21-WG	3.47	5	2
30-WG	2.05	0	3

Notes: Higher Score means more importance
Ranking of 1 indicates “most important”
“Mean Score” indicates the average of all scores received for that bridge
“Mode Score” indicates the most common selected score for that bridge

Public Input on Priorities

Question:

In your opinion, how should the bridges be prioritized for re-opening? Please rank the bridges from 1 (highest priority) to 3 (lowest priority) for priority to re-open:

Response:

Bridge ID	Mean Rank	Mode Rank	Rank
29-WG	1.18	1	1
21-WG	2.06	2	2
30-WG	2.37	3	3

Notes: Lower Ranking means higher priority
Ranking of 1 indicates “most important”
“Mean Rank” indicates the average of all ranks received for that bridge
“Mode Rank” indicates the most common rank received for that bridge

Key Themes in Comments

- Bridge closures impact emergency service access for residents
- Bridges play a key role in connection to farms
- Bridge work should consider width for farm equipment
- Residents are interested in connections for different road user types (pedestrians, cyclists, horses)
- Visibility issues
  (seeing if single lane 29-WG bridge is clear of oncoming traffic)
- Cost effectiveness of solutions is a priority to residents

General Comments

(Not Related to Specific Bridge)

- Farmers: Bridge closures/restrictions are resulting in use of CR19 to access farms south of Grand River, in Fergus and Erin, bridge closures cause difficulty maneuvering, interest in bridge widening to accommodate farm machinery
- A bus driver noted difficulty pre-planning to make it to CR19
- Residents expressed interest in cost effectiveness of options
- Emergency service access timings were a key concern for residents
- Some residents noted safety concerns with farm equipment on county roads
- One resident noted image casting and plaques for heritage bridges should be considered if removal occurs
- A resident asked if regular bridge maintenance could reduce bridge closures in the future and asked that all bridges not be closed at once

Comments on Bridge 29-WG

- Seven residents noted this bridge severely affects farmers in the area (access to farm fields)
- Due to curves along road, resident noted there were concerns about safety. A second resident noted visibility issues make it difficult to see oncoming traffic before crossing.
- One resident noted their desire for the bridge to accommodate pedestrian traffic, at minimum, as the bridge is a major walking route
- One farmer expressed the height is insufficient to allow farm equipment
- Two residents noted heritage of bridge had value to them
- Three residents also noted that closure has caused longer time to access emergency services
- One resident noted impacts to bus route.
- One resident noted 21-WG and 29-WG closures have added to resident commute times

Comments on Bridge 21-WG

- Resident north of 21-WG noted closure has added 12 km to their commute. Resident proposed re-opening with passenger traffic restrictions. A second farmer noted a 35 min increase to their route.
- One resident noted 21-WG and 29-WG closures have added to resident commute times, additional distance for farmers, access to emergency services

Comments on Bridge 30-WG

- 30-WG of priority also for pedestrians, cyclists, and horses – several residents inquired about a pedestrian/cyclist/motorcycle/equestrian bridge if not to be opened to vehicles again
- Importance to be accessible for trucks, combine/farm equipment (height, width, weight)
- Paving the road from 6th to 5th (like it used to be) was of interest to one resident
- Noted to have historical significance as an original bridge over the Grand River
- One resident noted concern that re-opening the bridge would increase traffic and speed and that they feel the road is already dangerous

Studies to Address Public Comments

The following studies will be completed to allow for evaluation of how each alternative may address the problems / opportunities identified by the Public

Transportation Impact Assessment	▪ Emergency Response Time Analysis ▪ Alternative Route Analysis (including slow moving vehicles avoiding the use of busier Wellington County roads)
Structural Assessment	▪ Replacement Structure Options (geometry, bridge type, etc.) ▪ Bridge requirements to provide no restrictions for farm equipment
Economic Environment	▪ Capital Cost Estimation ▪ Lifecycle Cost Analysis
Cultural Heritage Investigations	▪ Cultural Heritage Evaluation report and Impact Assessment ▪ Archaeological studies

Additional Studies

The following studies will also be conducted to help evaluate problems and opportunities of interest to Regulatory Agencies & the Township.

Hydraulic Analysis	▪ Review conveyance capacity and flood risk under rainfall events ▪ Analysis of replacement structure geometry to meet standards
Natural Environment	▪ Terrestrial Ecology Review ▪ Aquatic Ecology Review ▪ Species at Risk Review
Social Environment	▪ Consultations with Public to determine impacts ▪ Legal Survey for Property Impacts ▪ Land Use and Transportation Master Plan Review
Economic Environment	▪ Capital Cost Estimation ▪ Lifecycle Cost Analysis

The display boards, a narrated slideshow and all project updates will be available on the Township's project webpage:

www.connectcw.ca/CW-3Bridge-Study

If you have any questions, please contact the study team:

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