

Accessibility Advisory Committee

**March 9, 2023
2:00-4:00 p.m.
In Person and via Zoom**

Topic: AAC meeting

Time: Mar 9, 2023 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86276069763?pwd=enRhMEZTMmVwUE1rWjQ0OXVITC9FQT09>

Meeting ID: 862 7606 9763

Passcode: 116528

Dial by your location

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 862 7606 9763

Live Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@SaultstemarieCa>

Agenda

1. Meeting called to order

2. Chairs comments

3. Approval of Minutes – AAC meeting Feb 8, 2023

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

5. New Business

5.1. Presentation - Boardwalk Connecting Link Project

5.2. Presentation - Accessibility Training

5.3. Letter of support for Transit Wayfinding project

<https://www.blindsquare.com/>

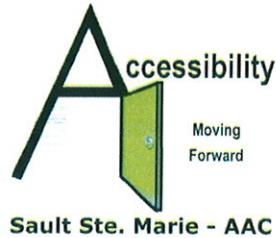
5.4. March of Dimes, Resource Vendor Meet & Greet – March 31

5.5. Access Awareness Week – May 29 to June 3, 2023

5.6. Discussion of recent AAC activities

6. Adjournment

Next meeting April 12, 2023 In Person and via Zoom 2:00 – 4:00



February 28, 2023

Re: Blindsquare app for Transit

Dear Mr. Lamming,

On behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) for the City of Sault Ste. Marie, we are pleased to support the City of Sault Ste. Marie's Community Development and Enterprise Services Department – Transit Division for implementation of the Blindsquare app for persons with vision disabilities to navigate on Transit.

As outlined in the current City of Sault Ste. Marie Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, the AAC continually strives to become a more accessible and inclusive community by removing barriers as we fulfill our obligations under the AODA.

The implementation of Blindsquare will make Sault Ste. Marie's Transit services more accessible. AAC member, Carol Magnan has this to say about Blindsquare, *"I am a daily Sault Transit user with vision loss. Before this app, it was easy to get disoriented, lost and at times having to depend on others for direction. Sometimes there is no one there to assist. It has allowed me to gain confidence giving me more independence. There are so many benefits when using this app. I use it travelling on the bus or walking down the street. This app directs me to the location I want to go by announcing where the bus stops, shelters, benches, garbage cans, buildings and streets are. It also announces the name and direction of the bus. This is great. Thank you Sault Transit for being accessible!"*

The AAC is guided by the four core principles of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), **Dignity, Independence, Integration, Equality of opportunity**.

The implementation of Blindsquare supports all four principles, and advances our goal to be a more accessible and inclusive community.

Regards,

Don McConnell
Chairperson, Accessibility Advisory Committee
Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie

Diane Morrell
Accessibility Coordinator
Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie



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Accessibility Training

Diane Morrell, Accessibility Coordinator



Statement of Commitment

- The City is committed and guided by the four core principles of the AODA of **Dignity, Independence, Integration and Equality of Opportunity.**
- The City is committed to providing quality goods, services and facilities that are accessible to all persons we serve, and in a manner that respects the dignity and independence of persons with disabilities.
- The City is committed to meeting the needs of persons with disabilities in a timely manner and shall do so by preventing and removing barriers to accessibility **in customer service, information and communication, employment, transportation and the built environment.**
- The City is further committed to meeting the requirements of applicable legislation, including the AODA and the Human Rights Code.



Ontarians with Disabilities (ODA 2001)

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA 2005)

- In 2001 the Ontario Government passed the ODA, which required municipalities with populations over 10,000 to form an Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- In 2005 the Ontario Government passed the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) with the intent of making Ontario Accessible by 2025.



AODA Standards

- Information and Communication
- Employment
- Transportation
- Design of Public Spaces
- Customer Service (updated in 2016)
- Draft Standards
 - Education
 - Healthcare



Ontario Human Rights Code

- 1982 “handicap” was added to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC) as a prohibited ground for discrimination and harassment
- The term “handicap” was changed to “disability” in 2002
- OHRC video:
<https://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/learning/working-together-code-and-aoda>



Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation 191/11 (IASR)

- Contains a section of General Requirements that apply to all the standards
- Combines the Transportation, Information and Communication, Employment and Built Environment Standards



General Requirements

- Accessibility policies
 - City of Sault Ste. Marie website
- Accessibility plans (4 year plan) 2022-2025
 - City of Sault Ste. Marie website
- Procuring or acquiring goods, services or facilities
- Accessibility standards training



Customer Service Standard

- **Service animals** can be readily identified as one that is being used by the person for reasons relating to the person's disability or,
- The person provides documentation a regulated health professionals confirming that the person requires the animal for reasons relating to the disability
- **Support persons;** If a person with a disability is accompanied by a support person, the provider shall ensure that both persons are permitted to enter the premises together and that the person with a disability is not prevented from having access to the support person while on the premises



Transportation Standard

- Transportation is the biggest challenge for persons with various disabilities
- Accessible transportation services will assist people with disabilities to live, work and participate in their communities
- Improving accessible transportation will assist people with disabilities living in Ontario but also visitors and seniors



Information and Communication Standard

- Outlines requirements for organizations to create, provide and receive information and communications in ways that are accessible for people with disabilities
- Accessible websites
- Accessible formats and communication supports
- Accessible feedback processes
- Public emergency information



Built Environment Standard Design of Public Spaces (DOPS)

- The goal of the Built Environment Standard (Design of Public Spaces) is to remove barriers in public spaces
- **Exterior paths of travel**
- **Recreational trails**
- **Beach access routes**
- **Outdoor public use eating areas**
- **Outdoor play spaces**
- **On street and off street accessible parking**
- **Obtaining service in public spaces**
- January 2015 saw significant improvements to the Barrier Free Section of the Ontario Building Code



Employment Standards

- Requires employers to provide accessibility across all stages of the employment life cycle
- Recruitment, employees returning to work, employee accommodation, performance management, redeployments, workplace emergency information
- Build the accessibility needs of employees into the human resources practices



“The City of Sault Ste. Marie in its ongoing efforts to prevent, identify and remove barriers for people with disabilities will provide for work-related accommodations for employees with disabilities.”



Making Ontario Accessible

- In order for everyone to be able to participate, we must eliminate barriers
- Greatest barrier to accessibility: our attitude and perception of people with disabilities
- Accessibility is about social inclusion. For Ontario to be accessible, everybody has to be able to participate.



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Thank you!

Questions?

Contact:

Diane Morrell

Accessibility Coordinator

705-541-7310

d.morrell@cityssm.on.ca



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BONDAR MARINA BOARDWALK EXTENSION

City Contract 2022-CDE-CS-03-T

**Contract awarded to Poralu Marine
Completion expected end of June**

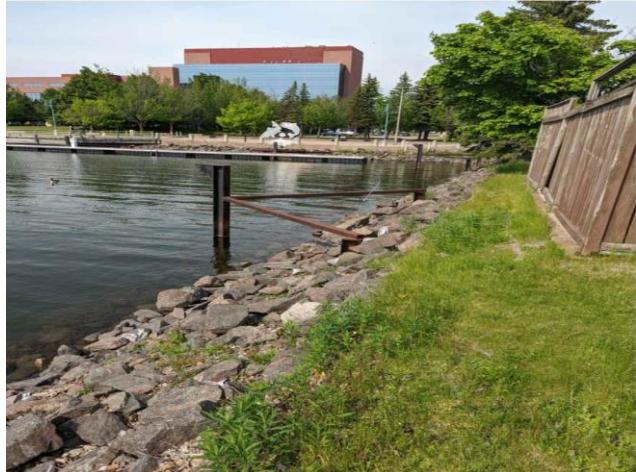


Previous Floating Walkway... Out with the Old

- Walkway floated, fluctuated with water levels
- Steep ramps
- Not AODA Compliant
- Steel pontoons severely damaged in 2011 when water was at a low and not repairable
- Removed in spring of 2011



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**IN WITH THE
NEW**



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Photo by



New Walkway

- Sidewalk/road level
- Fully accessible
- 8 feet wide and include 3 benches
- Will match/compliment the existing marina construction
- Minimal maintenance
- Complete the Hubtrail missing waterfront link



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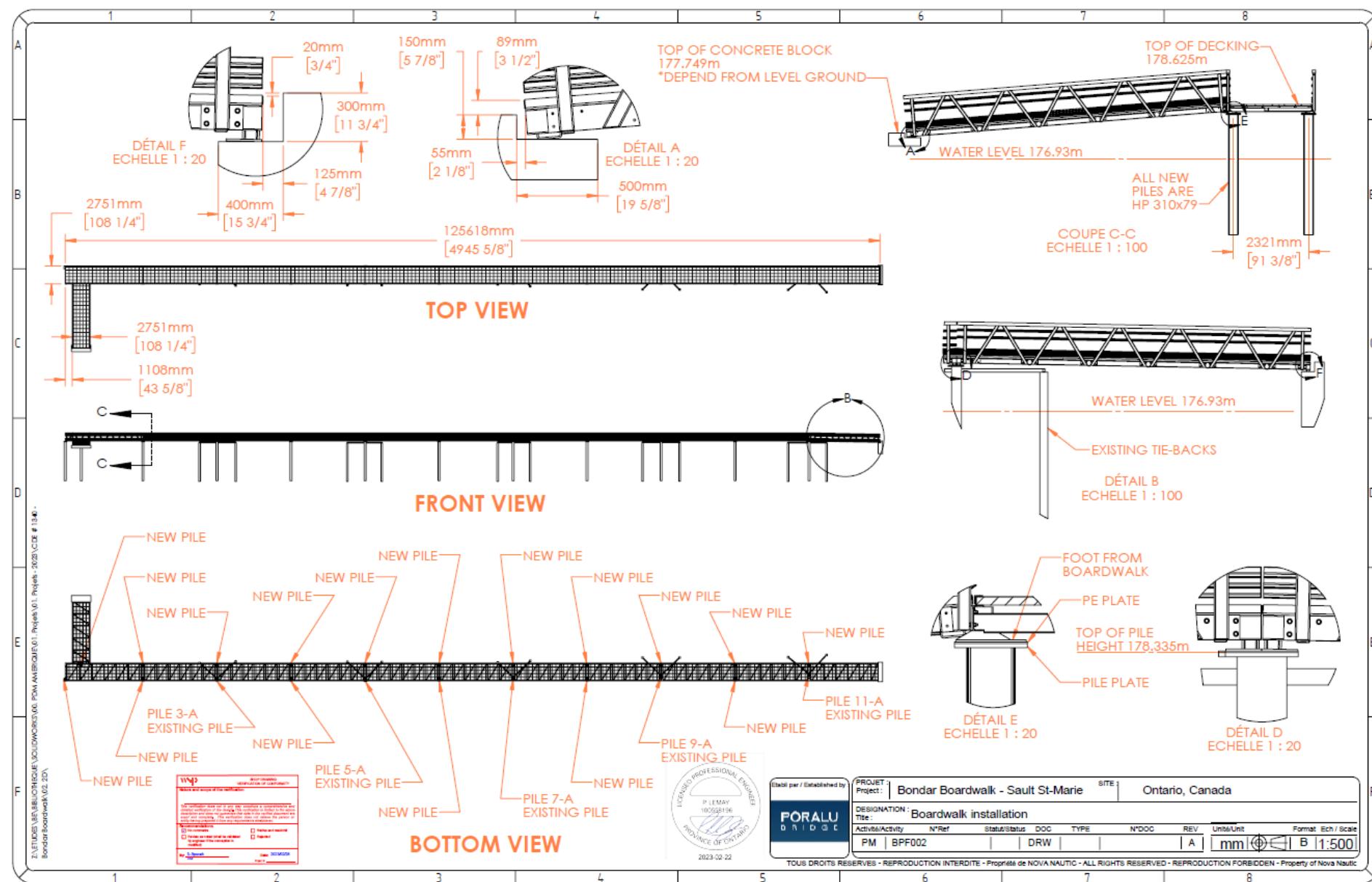
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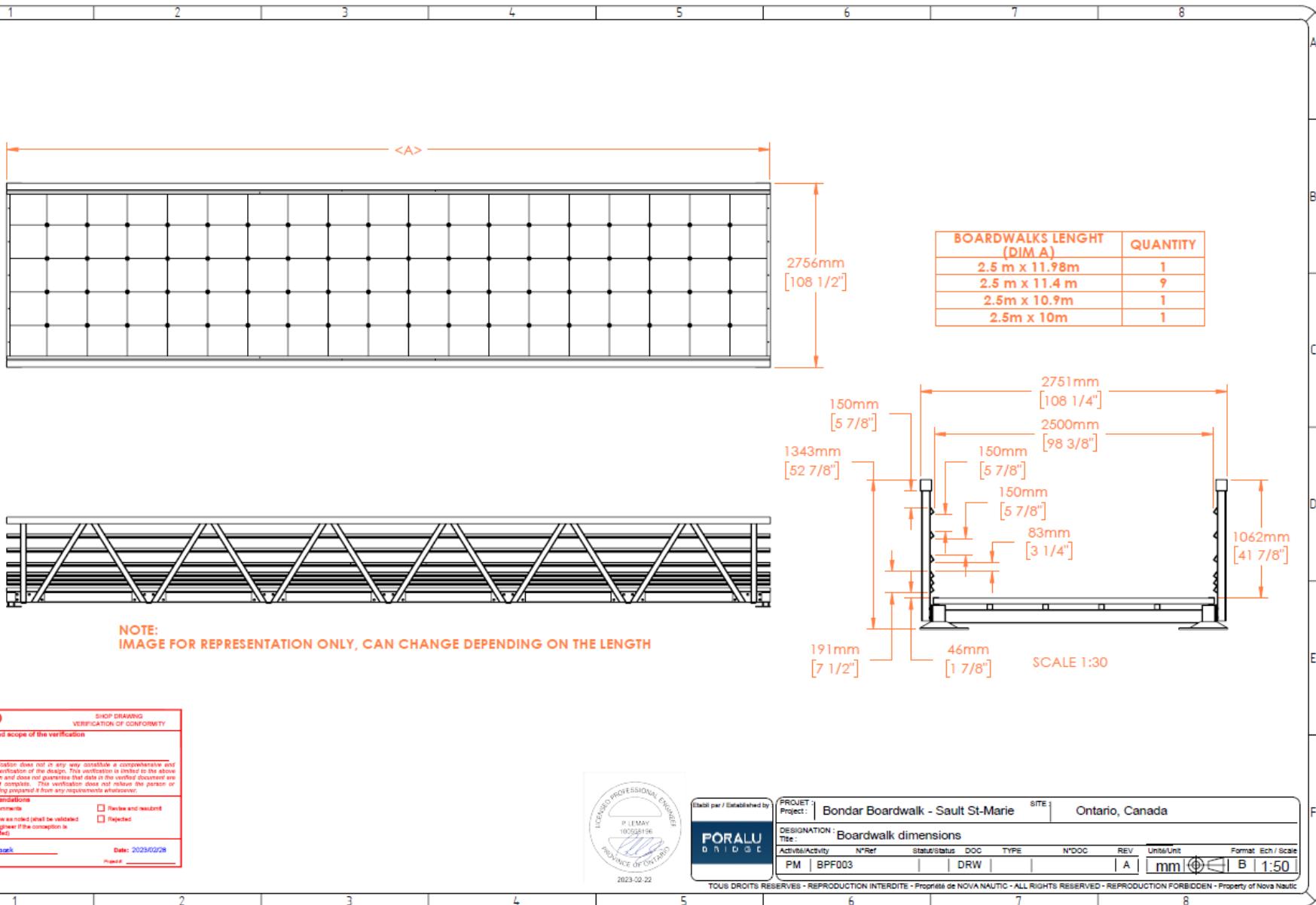


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WSP

SHOP DRAWING
VERIFICATION OF CONFORMITY

Nature and scope of the verification

This verification does not in any way constitute a comprehensive and detailed verification of the design. This verification is limited to the above description and does not guarantee that data in the verified document are valid and correct. The verification is performed by the person or entity having prepared it from any requirements whatsoever.

Recommendations

Approved Revisé and resubmit
 Review as noted (shall be validated by engineer if the conception is modified) Rejected

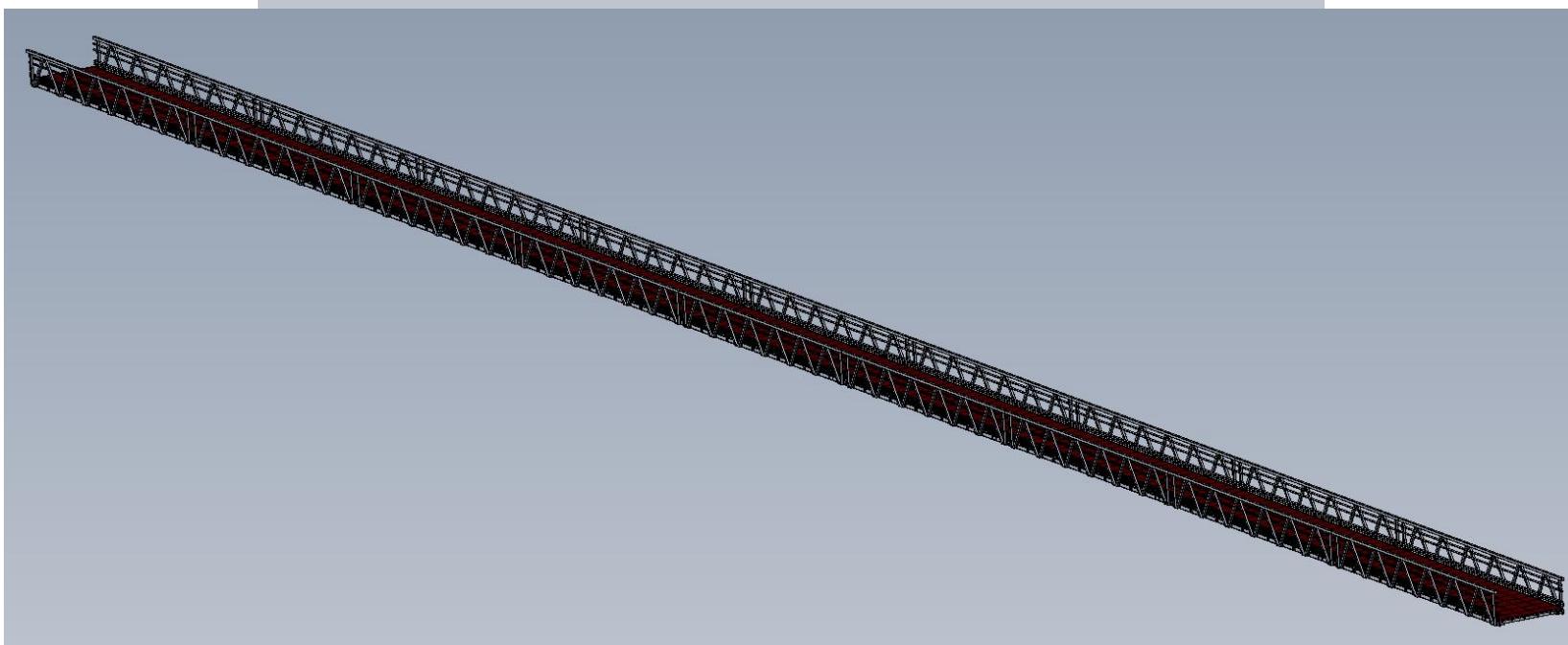
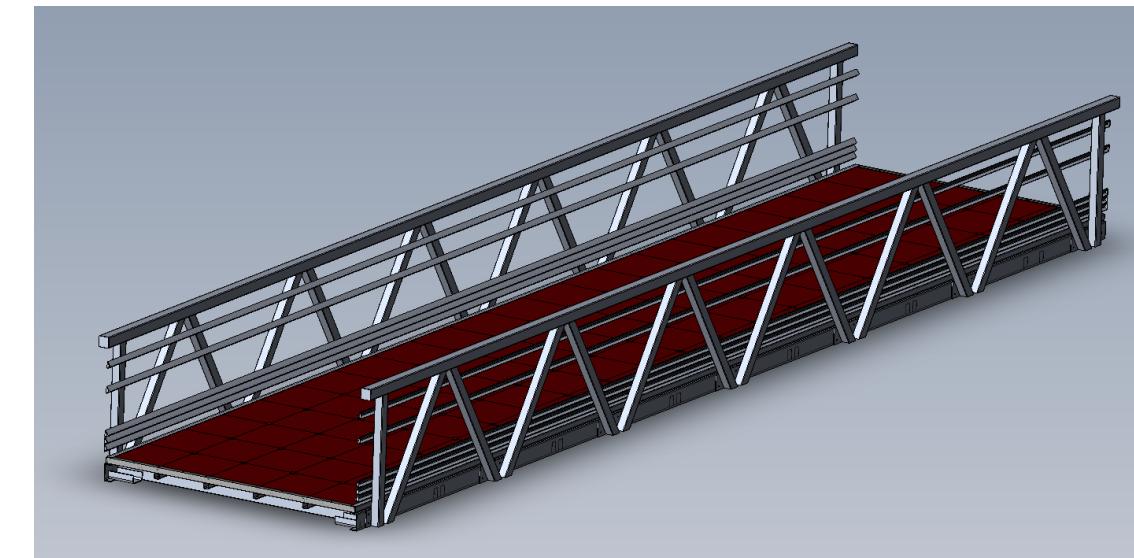
By: D. Szczepanik Date: 2023/02/28



PROJET :	Bondar Boardwalk - Sault St-Marie	SITE :	Ontario, Canada
DESIGNATION : Boardwalk dimensions			
Activité/Activity	N°Ref	Status/Status	DOC TYPE N°DOC REV Unit/Unit Format Ech / Scale
PM	BRF003	DRW	A mm B 1:50



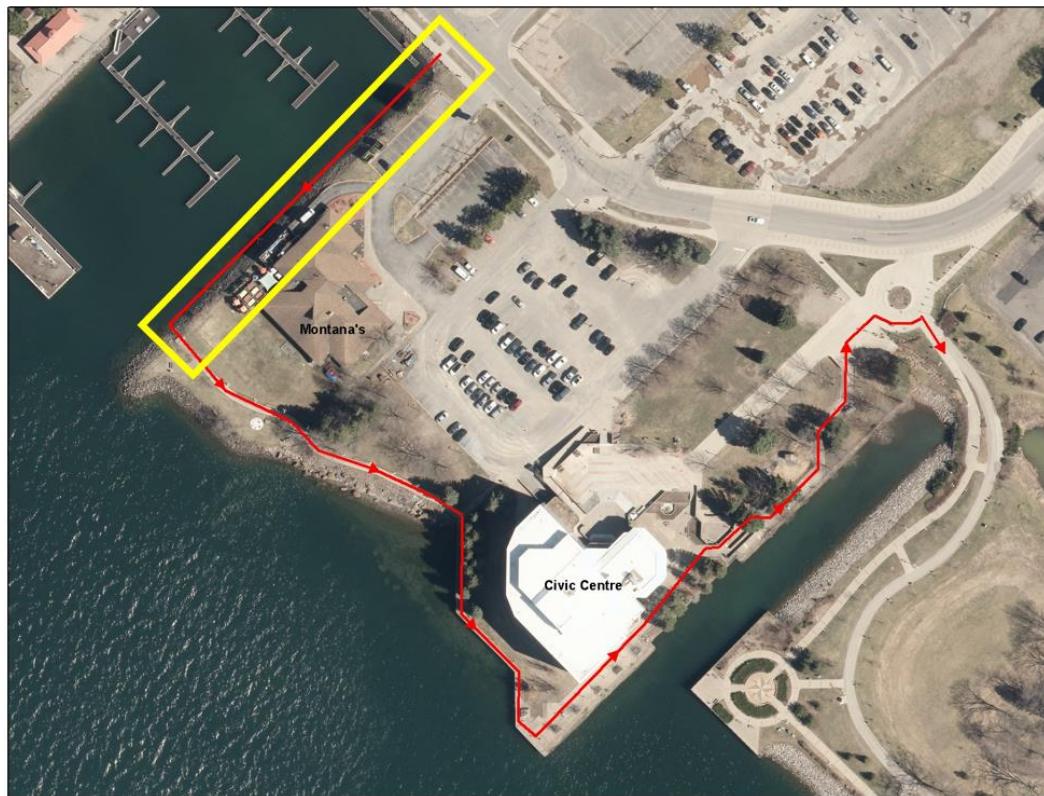
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Completes the missing link!





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Thank you For your time

Questions?