Swift Monthly Project Update - January 2021

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 1:23:34 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Barry Field

To: DG-SWIFT Board, DG-WOWC CAOs, DG Contributing CAOs

CC: Deb Fawcett, Melissa O'Brien

Attachments: 200.04.012.v1.0 Monthly Dashboard - January 2021.pdf, image001.png, image002.png[6].png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png

SWIFT Board Members and CAOs,

Please see the attached monthly project update for January 2021. Any information in this report is not deemed confidential and can be shared with your respective municipalities as you see fit.



All report data is as at January 31, 2021

#### Phase 2 Status

- Procurement
  - All contracts executed; implementation is underway.
- Implementation
  - Implementation underway and progressing well with one major delay to report
    - NOR\_EXE\_06 (Long Point) is expected to be delayed by 11 months due to environmental permitting issues. SWIFT and Norfolk County are working with Execulink to help expedite the permitting process where possible. The ISP has redirected resources to other SWIFT projects in order to bring them in ahead of scheduled and compensate for the delay in Long Point.

- Construction started/underway in 9 of 12 projects.
- 196 kilometres of fibre construction has been completed to date
- 3,689 premises passed to date
- 1,829 premises serviceable to date
- See attached Monthly Dashboard for details for each project.

# Phase 3 Status

• Procurement

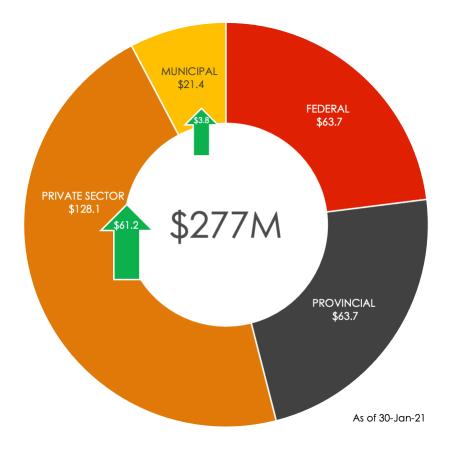
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Municipality	RFP Issued	RFP Closed	Evaluation Complete	PAC Approved	Contracts Executed	Projects Announced
Dufferin	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Caledon	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Oxford	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Grey	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Essex	√	√	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Windsor	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Bruce	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Simcoe	$\checkmark$	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Waterloo	√	√	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Niagara	$\checkmark$	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Brant	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Middlesex	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	√*	TBD
London	√	√	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Chatham- Kent	√	√	1	1	1	1
Perth	$\checkmark$	√	√	✓	26-Feb-21	TBD
Elgin	$\checkmark$	√	✓	√	05-Mar-21	TBD
Huron	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	√	05-Mar-21	TBD
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One project in Middlesex may need to be amended.

- Implementation
  - Implementation underway and progressing well with no major delays to report
  - Construction started/underway in 5 of 53 projects
  - 18 kilometres of fibre construction has been completed to date
  - 163 premises passed to date
  - 13 premises serviceable to date
  - See attached Monthly Dashboard for details for each project.

### Financial/Spending Update

- Private Sector contributions have increased by \$61.2M from budgeted amount.
- SWIFT+ contributions of \$3.8M received (Lambton County and Dufferin County) in order to facilitate the award of an additional projects in those counties.
- Total project funding increased from \$209M to \$277M as a result.
- Note: Federal and Provincial contribution are 'up to' amounts and will depend on the results of the Phase 3 procurements.



## Issues and Risks

- Municipal Loan Guarantee
  - \$27.5M short-term bridge financing required in order to fund gap between SWIFT's requirement to pay ISPs per the Construction Act and anticipated reimbursement of claims.
  - SWIFT's current Phase 2 financing agreement with TD Bank is being extended to cover Phase 3.
  - Municipal guarantees are required to guarantee the overall loan and 100% participation is required or else there will be a shortfall the overall loan available.
  - TD Bank and SWIFT have executed the Demand Operating Facility Agreement.
  - Municipal guarantee letters have been provided by TD Bank and are being sent to each municipality (9 of 14 municipal guarantees in place / remainder expected by mid-March).
- COVID-19
  - COVID-19 remains a risk for the SWIFT project
  - Need to keep an eye on potential supply chain issues.

### **Communications Update**

- All 20 SWIFT RFPs have been issued and closed.
- 4 project areas still to be announced, including:
  - Middlesex County
    - Perth County
    - Elgin County
    - Huron County
- We anticipate having all contracts signed for the remaining project areas by late February. Projects for the remaining RFPs will be announced by the province on a rolling basis once SWIFT has executed contracts.
- Recent Announcements:

- o SWIFT Project Connecting More Residents in Norfolk County
- o SWIFT Broadband Expansion Plans Now Underway in Dufferin County
- o SWIFT Expanding Broadband Access in Chatham-Kent
- o SWIFT Broadband Project Now Providing Improved Internet Access in Wellington County
- o SWIFT Announces Broadband Expansion Project for London
- o <u>SWIFT Announces \$21M Broadband Expansion Plan for Niagara Region</u>
- o SWIFT Announces Broadband Improvements for Brant County
- o SWIFT Broadband Projects Now Underway in Caledon

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,



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