1 Background

Back to the River is an initiative in partnership with the London Community Foundation and the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority that aims to revitalize a reach of the river within the city’s core area. An international design competition was won by Civitas for their Ribbon of the Thames vision.

One aspect of the design for the forks area includes a pedestrian bridge over the main branch of the Thames. The intent is to provide an active transportation link while “triangulating” the park area of the Forks. Further detail on the winning design can be found at:


Figure 1 – Location of Back to the River Elements including proposed Becher Bridge (circled in red)

2 Project Objective:

Construction of a bridge across the main branch of the Thames River to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists and contribute to the overall vision of Back to the River.

3 Design Criteria:

The design must be in accordance with the TAC, CHBDC, and other applicable design guidelines. Additional requirements include:

- Must accommodate two lanes (one lane each direction) of pedestrian and cycling traffic
- Must be in approximate location shown, in close proximity to the Forks. Exact location may be adjusted for suitability of terrain, existing grades, or other factors as determined by the design team

4 Project Deliverables

Design brief, set of construction drawings, and cost estimate. The Design Brief shall discuss construction techniques and their suitability, structural details, operational considerations and environmental concerns. The drawings shall detail the cross-section, super structure and sub structure. The Drawings shall detail the solution completely. The cost estimate will include capital and maintenance costs.