



Pierre-Fort Pierre Bridge Newsletter

May 09, 2024 | Issue 86



Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron Memorial Bridge Pierre & Fort Pierre, S.D.

Bridge Project Update

This year's consistently warmer days are here to stay, and crews are out in full force finishing deck forms and pouring the remaining deck concrete. Additionally, crews are hard at work on the westbound barrier rail and curb on the Pierre side, where several sections of barrier rail have been placed and more forms have been set in preparation for additional sections of rail and curb.

As mentioned in previous issues, pouring deck concrete can be one of the most logically challenging parts of bridge construction. For this new bridge, a tried-and-true articulated arm extends from a concrete pump truck parked on the existing bridge in order to deliver the concrete to the deck.

Concrete is best poured when the temperatures are under 90° F, winds are calm, and humidity is high. Also, contrary to commonly used phrasing, concrete does not "dry" once it's poured—it "cures" instead. Curing is the process of preventing the loss of moisture during the time period the concrete is gaining strength. Curing compounds, wetted burlap, water hoses, and plastic are all items utilized to help slow the loss of moisture. Depending on various factors, concrete can take up to 28 days to fully and properly cure. Project managers must balance such timelines with other tasks in order to maximize each crew's efficiency.

Supporting these efforts are the ongoing earthworks and grading on the Ft. Pierre side, where crews are building up the subgrade and bridge berm necessary for that side's upcoming pavement.

We remind all motorists, boaters, and pedestrians to stay vigilant throughout the entire construction zone, especially as we approach the warmer seasons!

Keep up to date on photos, videos, and construction progress by visiting <https://www.Pierre-FtPierreBridge.com>.



Extendable pump truck arm pouring concrete, May 01, 2024.

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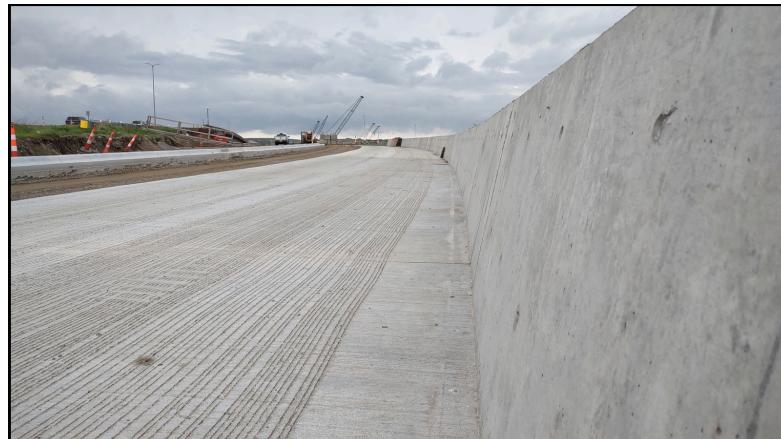


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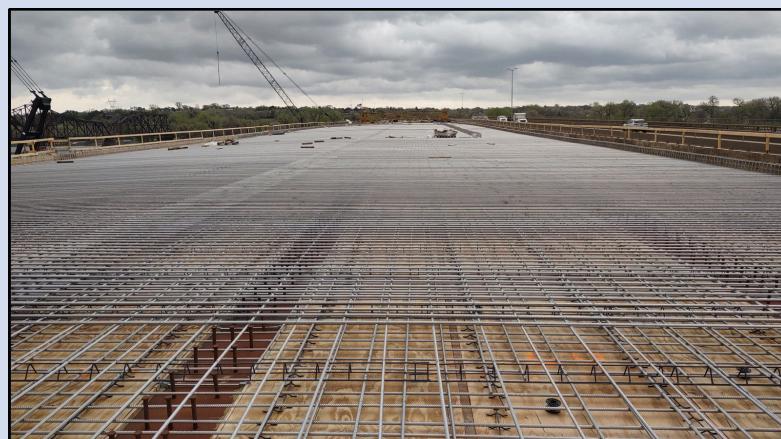




Barrier wall and slab on the Pierre side approach, May 06, 2024.



Curb strip placed on the Pierre side, May 06, 2024.



Steel rebar tied in and awaiting remaining concrete pours, May 06, 2024.



Compacted and graded earth on the Ft. Pierre side approach, May 06, 2024.



Workers pouring and paving concrete on the bridge deck, May 06, 2024.



Extendable pump truck arm pouring concrete, May 03, 2024.