



Pierre-Fort Pierre Bridge Newsletter

Aug. 29, 2024 | Issue 94

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

Bridge Project Update

Summer is winding down, a new school year is upon us, and traffic is flowing across the new bridge as crews continue their work. Extra late-summer rains have presented some difficulties for new paving on the east and west approaches of the new bridge, but thankfully these crews are no stranger to Mother Nature, and all portions of the current phase are seeing significant progress.

With the pedestrian separation rail and pathway complete, all but one luminaire pole has been installed on the south side of the new bridge. These luminaire poles provide a pleasant decorative contrast to the lighter-colored concrete of the new bridge deck. Also near completion is the metal handrail on top of the pedestrian separation rail. This safety feature will also include puck lighting installed periodically along the entire length of the handrail. Along this pedestrian area spanning the new bridge, the belvederes are starting to take shape. One belvedere has already been cast, and the formwork for the second belvedere is in place. Once the belvederes are cast and cured, the south outer rail will be installed, completing the safety features of the new pedestrian area and adding even more decorative flair to the new bridge.

On both ends of the new bridge, demolition of the existing approach concrete is well under way. Hydraulic hammers are being utilized to punch holes in the slabs, which are then

further broken into rubble and hauled away. This concrete demolition is continuing alongside the Island Drive reconfiguration on the Ft. Pierre side, which is seeing significant earthwork and grading progress.

As always, we remind all motorists, boaters, and pedestrians to stay vigilant throughout the entire construction zone!

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



Workers drill holes in the concrete pedestrian separation rail for handrail placement, Aug. 26, 2024.

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Storm sewer pipe staged on the recently removed approach of the existing bridge on the Pierre side, Aug. 26, 2024.



Hydraulic hammer holes and recently removed concrete on the Pierre side of the existing bridge, Aug. 26, 2024.



Pierre side entry to new pedestrian pathway, Aug. 26, 2024.



The final luminaire pole awaits installation on the pedestrian separation rail, Aug. 26, 2024.



An excavator loads concrete rubble from demolished approach on the Ft. Pierre side, Aug. 26, 2024.



A bulldozer, excavator, and sheepsfoot roller at work on the Island Drive reconfiguration, Aug. 26, 2024.