



# Pierre-Fort Pierre Bridge Newsletter

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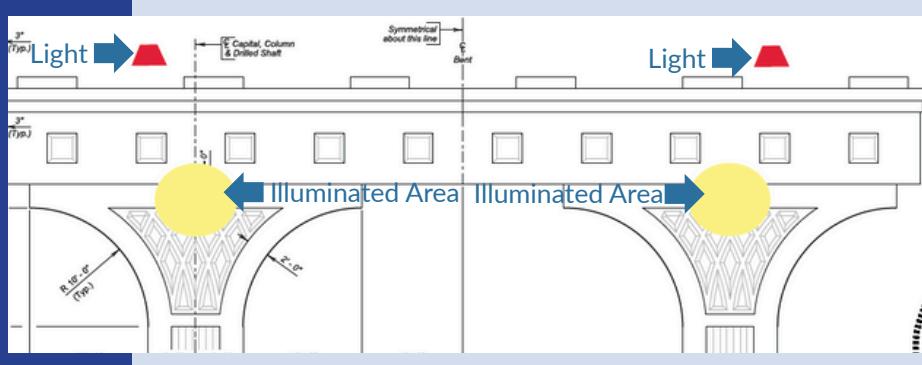
**Lt. Cmdr. John C. Waldron Memorial Bridge Pierre & Fort Pierre, S.D.**

## Bridge Project Update

Over the past two weeks, crews have continued making progress despite some soggy conditions. Demolition efforts continue, with crews actively removing old piers and clearing rubble from the site. Additionally, the raised median across from Island Drive has now been installed. The public can expect to see a traffic change to inside lanes in the coming weeks to allow for median work on the outside lanes.

Crews have also begun work on installing an Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR). An ATR is a series of sensors that detect vehicle presence and axle configuration. This provides detailed information about vehicles on the roadway. These devices can count the number of vehicles, identify vehicle types (such as cars, trucks, or buses), following distance, track speed, and traffic patterns. The data collected is essential for planning, traffic flow analysis, and safety assessments. Additionally, the data produced by monitoring locations are a requirement for federal highway funding. The Federal Highway Administration mandates accurate traffic data to justify investments and ensure that infrastructure projects meet national standards for efficiency, safety, and environmental impact.

Crews have been hard at work installing under-bridge lighting that will enhance both visibility and aesthetics. These new fixtures will illuminate the bridge bents, with four lights planned per bent—two on each side. This lighting will not only improve nighttime visibility under the bridge but also contribute to safety and visual appeal for pedestrians and motorists alike.



Sample drawing of under-bridge lighting plan. (May 2025)

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*Traffic patterns will shift to the inside lanes so installation of traffic classifiers can continue. (May 2025)*



*Despite rainy conditions, crews continue demolition of the existing bridge piers. (May 2025)*

