

# North Dakota Department of Transportation NEWS

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## Large Memorial Bridge transition pier stripped next week West side foundation work continues

**Bismarck**— Starting next week, the large transition pier 12 on the Bismarck side of the new Liberty Memorial Bridge will be stripped of forms now that it has cured to specifications. Once the forms are removed, revealing the 40-foot tall structure, the alignment and elevation of the east side approach will be visible. It's possible that girders could be set on the east approach in March.

Also on the east side, crews continue to drive sheet piling down to the depth where footings can begin to be built on pier 10 which is the pier closest to the water. Excavation of that pier could begin next week. Once it's excavated to the required depth, piling will be driven.

On the west side of the river, foundation work is well underway. Concrete was placed for two of the three pier columns for pier 2 this week. Piers 3 through 6 are under construction. Pier 6 is the large transition pier on the west side similar to pier 12 on the east side. It is being built at the same location as the where the butcher plant Missouri Valley Meats once stood.

River levels and weather conditions continue to influence decisions about continuing work on the river. If the Missouri River level stays where it is or drops and if weather does not turn extremely cold, there is a possibility that a crew could start work in the river to set forms for the two large pier stems at pier 8.

The latest photographs, traffic advisories with maps and other information are available at the website, <http://www.memorialbridge.info> .

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