

# North Dakota Department of Transportation

## NEWS

October 2, 2008

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### Detonation of first span of old Memorial Bridge set for Monday

**Bismarck** – The western-most span and through-truss of the old Memorial Bridge will be dropped by incendiary devices Monday morning, Oct. 6, 2008, at 10 a.m. Demolition crews are cutting the span to be dropped in to the water in 26 pieces that will be retrieved by crane within 24 hours. Only one span and through-truss will be removed on Monday. The other trusses will be removed later this month.

If people want to witness this historic event they are encouraged to use public viewing areas in Steamboat Park or near the Bismarck Water Treatment on the east side of the river. Both are between the recreation trail and river bank and have a clear view of the bridge. There is no established viewing area on the west side of the river because it is private property.

To protect the public, a required minimum 1,000-foot restricted zone on both water and land has been established and law enforcement will be posted to keep the area clear of spectators. No pedestrians, vehicles or boats will be allowed in the restricted zone. Traffic will be stopped at the restricted zone from approximately 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. on Monday. (*A map is included in this e-mail.*)

Other work on the new bridge will be suspended during the time of the detonation Monday morning. Once the detonation has occurred, crews will return to work.

Anticipated work for the week of October 6:

- West approach slab.
- Grading and paving approaches.
- Apply finish to concrete surfaces of piers.
- Sidewalk paving.
- Removal of the east end of old bridge deck and sidewalk.
- Installing lights, outlets and conduit inside main span girders.
- Continue installing signal lights at intersections.
- Continue wiring aesthetic lighting on bridge piers.

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