

# North Dakota Department of Transportation NEWS

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## Large concrete pours advance Memorial Bridge schedule Contractor working longer hours to stay on schedule

(Bismarck) – Nearly 1,000 cubic yards of concrete (135 truckloads) of concrete were placed at Memorial Bridge this week in two separate pours. Wednesday, Lunda Construction placed 605 cubic yards of concrete for the deck of the west approach bridge. Thursday, in a day-long pour, crews placed about 350 cubic yards of concrete in the twin column forms at pier 9.

Across the main span, 12 steel beams were set in the last week – three a piece in each of four runs from pier 6 across pier 7. It is anticipated that at least 3 more long beams will arrive on the job site from Gary, Indiana, this weekend and could be set next week, weather permitting. Crews used the good weather and light winds of last weekend and early this week to make progress in setting main span steel. More weekend work, from daylight to dusk is expected.

Recent challenges encountered with the extraction of sheet piling for the pier 10 cofferdam, combined with the contractor's difficulty getting main span steel beams delivered to the job site have taken longer than expected. The two events took up the additional days that were built in to the contractor's original schedule. Typically a contractor will build additional days in to the project schedule for bad weather; those days have been exhausted with the delays of the sheet piling and steel delivery. That's why the contractor is already working seven days a week from sun up to sun down with multiple operations and is looking at ways to keep the project on schedule.

Drivers on Captain Marsh Drive in Mandan, under the project will see some water dripping from the structure on to the roadway while the concrete deck cures for 10 days.

Work anticipated to take place week of October 22:

- Pier 10 forms stripped.
- Pier 11 prepped to set forms for upper pier columns.
- East side causeway temporarily extended toward pier 8 then toward pier 9 to set girders.

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

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