

North Commuter Parkway and Traffic Bridge Construction Update

For immediate release: August 22, 2017 TU17-479

The City of Saskatoon is very pleased with the progress that has been made on the construction of the North Commuter Parkway and new Traffic Bridge. The two bridges and accompanying roadways are part of the <u>Bridging to Tomorrow</u> project, which remains on track for completion in October 2018.

"At the North Commuter Parkway, all of the in-river piers are now in place," says Dan Willems, Director for Major Projects and Preservation. "The structural steel for the remaining two spans of the bridge are have been installed and the bridge is progressing on time and as planned."

As for North Commuter Parkway roadway work, new southbound lanes on Central Avenue from Attridge Drive to Fedoruk Road opened to traffic earlier this summer and new northbound lanes are now being reconstructed. Sound wall construction is nearly complete along Attridge Drive west of Central Avenue and is ongoing along Attridge Drive east of Central Avenue. The six-lane North Commuter Parkway will connect Saskatoon's Marquis Industrial Area to neighbourhoods on the east-side. It will also accommodate pedestrians and cyclists.

The new Traffic Bridge looks similar to the old traffic bridge but is slightly wider and taller in order to accommodate wider traffic lanes, wider pathways on both sides, and overhead clearance for emergency vehicles. Once complete, it will once again serve as a convenient link for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists crossing the South Saskatchewan River.

"All of the Traffic Bridge trusses are now in place and bridge deck construction continues. Crews are also working on the Saskatchewan Crescent overpass and retaining walls in Rotary Park. The retaining wall on Victoria Avenue is now complete and utility work is ongoing in the area," says Willems.

Bridging to Tomorrow project updates, including detailed monthly summaries, links to live cameras at each bridge site, and quarterly video updates, are available at saskatoon.ca/bridging.

In person, anyone can watch Traffic Bridge progress at the River Landing viewing area. North Commuter Parkway construction can be viewed from the Meewasin Trail just east of the cul-de-sac at the north end of Kinnear Avenue (north of Silverwood Golf Course).