

Bridging to Tomorrow Update (May 2016)

The City and its project partners, Graham Commuter Partners (GCP), continue to make significant progress on the North Commuter Parkway and Traffic Bridge projects!

Once complete in 2018, the North Commuter Parkway will support the transportation needs of citizens who live in Saskatoon's northeast and work in the Marquis and North Industrial Areas, reducing traffic on the city's existing bridges. The new Traffic Bridge, also slated for completion in 2018, will support the growing city centre by allowing motorists, pedestrians and cyclists to cross the river between the downtown and residential areas in the south sector of the city. The new bridge will look similar to the old one, but will be wider to accommodate emergency vehicles.

North Commuter Parkway

Parkway Bridge

A cofferdam has been built in the river which will allow new bridge construction to begin. This temporary enclosure provides a dry area in which to construct the pier, and construction of Pier 1 is underway. Work includes excavating the cofferdam at the pier location and fabricating the forms for the pier. Construction on the east embankment of the new bridge is also well underway.

Parkway Roadways

Clearing and topsoil stripping for the new roadways is now complete and earthwork operations continue along McOrmond Drive and Central Avenue. Storm sewers are being constructed for the new lanes of Central Avenue between Attridge Drive and Fedoruk Drive. Work to improve the Attridge Drive and Central Avenue intersection will soon begin.

By this fall, upgrades to the Attridge Drive/Central Avenue intersection, and the Marquis Drive and Wanuskewin Road intersection will be complete. Drainage, waterline and sewer infrastructure should be installed along Central Avenue, and overhead powerlines should be relocated along Central Avenue.

Traffic Bridge

Work to refurbish the south in-river pier (Pier 3) continues. This included setting forms in place and pouring concrete into the new pier shaft. The piers will support the new bridge structure.

The south abutment, the structure at the end of the bridge upon which the main bridge structure will rest, is also being constructed. Piles have been drilled to support the south abutment.

Over the next month construction of Pier 3 and the south abutment will continue. By this fall, Pier 3, the south abutment, the north abutment, and the new south span (Span 4) should be complete.