



# WALTERDALE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

## PROJECT UPDATE

(September 2013)

After nearly 100 years, the Walterdale Bridge has reached the end of its service life. A \$155 million project will be constructed from 2013-15. The current bridge will be removed in 2016.

Remaining concrete and paving work is anticipated to be completed by late September. Signs, pavement markings and temporary traffic signals will be installed after surface paving is complete.



South side roadwork



Sheet pilings on south side

Drainage work on the south side along Queen Elizabeth Park Road is complete. Remaining drainage work includes a 750 mm storm sewer east of the roadway.

Sheet piling continues to be installed on both banks to facilitate construction of thrust blocks to support the future bridge arches. So far, approximately 40 sheet pilings have been completed on the south bank. On the north bank, nine drilled concrete piles have been completed.

### CONSTRUCTION

2013 bridge work includes excavating and building thrust blocks, which are large underground anchor blocks needed to support the bridge arches. The south area will also be re-graded to accommodate future realignment of Queen Elizabeth Park Road.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Soil sorting on the north side as part of Historical Resources Act (HRA) requirements is coming to a close. The archaeological team has not identified any material from previously disturbed grave features or intact flood plain sediments.



Paving of Queen Elizabeth Park Road

Major grading work on Queen Elizabeth Park Road is complete, with minor grading work on boulevards ongoing. Base asphalt paving and curb

The construction contractor uncovered bison remains on the south side construction area near the river while doing piling work. They kept the skull safe, then cooperated with the archaeological team by donating the find to the Royal Alberta Museum.



Bison skull found on south side

and gutter work is about 50 per cent complete.



**TRAFFIC IMPACTS**

Queen Elizabeth Park Road will reopen by early October.

Walterdale Bridge, the Kinsmen Sports Centre and John Walter Museum are still accessible via Walterdale Hill Road. Detours to downtown include 99 Street/Scona Road to the Low Level Bridge or 98 Avenue/James MacDonald Bridge.

**PHOTOS/VIDEOS**

Photos such as the ones included in this newsletter are posted online monthly during construction. Go to the project page or [edmonton.ca/photos](http://edmonton.ca/photos) to search for images.



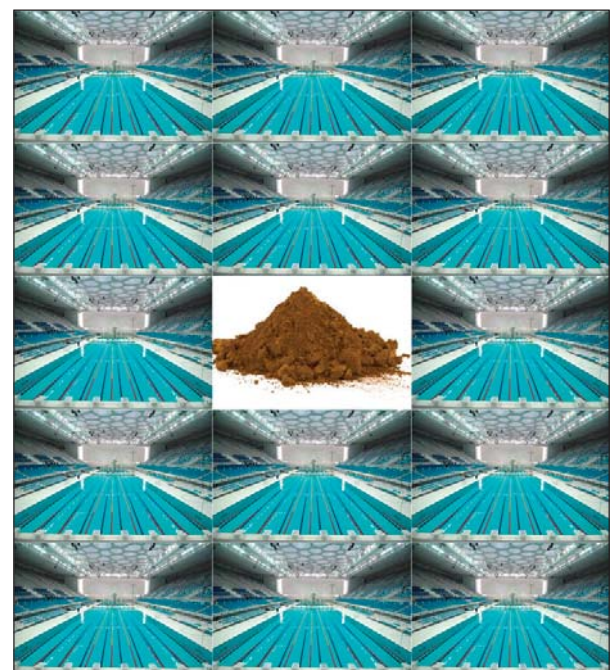
South side construction

**CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 2013    | <p><b>Completed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree clearing.</li> <li>• Access roads and in-river berms.</li> <li>• Park trails rerouted.</li> <li>• Interpretive belvedere removed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing/Upcoming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move interpretive belvedere panels to temporary location.</li> <li>• Relocate utilities/construct drainage system.</li> <li>• Realign Queen Elizabeth Park Road.</li> <li>• Construct thrust blocks.</li> </ul> |
| 2014-15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct and erect bridge arches.</li> <li>• Realign Walterdale Hill Road.</li> <li>• Construct bridge.</li> <li>• Connect roads to new bridge alignment.</li> <li>• Landscaping/trail connections.</li> </ul>   |
| 2015-16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand opening of new bridge.</li> <li>• Demolition of old bridge.</li> </ul>  |

**CONSTRUCTION BY THE NUMBERS**

- 35,000 m<sup>3</sup> of earthworks (enough dirt to fill 14 Olympic-sized swimming pools!)
- 585 m of storm sewer
- 3,300 tonnes of gravel base



14 Olympic-sized swimming pools worth of dirt!