

Whitemud Drive & Quesnell Bridge Project

Construction Update

November 2009



Project Overview

The widening of the Quesnell Bridge to enhance traffic flow and improve traffic safety will result in three lanes both east and westbound as well as auxiliary turning lanes and widened shoulders in both directions. The reconstruction will increase the lifespan of the bridge by up to 50 years and that of the Fox Drive overpass by up to 75 years. A realignment of the existing multi-use trail west of the Quesnell Bridge are also being developed. The project remains on schedule and is anticipated to be complete by November 2010.

Construction completed in 2009:

- » Arched retaining wall along east side of Quesnell Bridge
- » Multi-use trail behind the arched wall from Laurier Drive to the river valley open to the public November 30
- » Redi-Rock wall north of the Quesnell Bridge
- » Ultimate lanes westbound on Whitemud Drive from Quesnell Bridge to 149 St. and ultimate lanes westbound on Whitemud Drive from 60 Ave. to the Fox Drive overpass
- » Cast in place retaining wall south of the Fox Drive overpass
- » Construction of east half of the Fox Drive overpass
- » The inside portion of the Quesnell Bridge deck

This is the first major rehabilitation of the Quesnell Bridge since it was constructed in 1967. It will increase its lifespan by up to 50 years. Reconstruction of the Fox Drive overpass will increase its lifespan by up to 75 years.

The project remains on schedule and is anticipated to be completed by November 2010.

Work to be undertaken over the winter months includes:

Pouring the outer deck (east side) of the Quesnell Bridge

Beginning installation of the pier extensions on the west side of the Quesnell Bridge

Traffic Arrangement

The current traffic arrangement across the Quesnell Bridge will continue until November 2010:

- » 3 lanes eastbound
- » 3 lanes westbound

The Fox Drive ramp onto the bridge will re-open in December 2009.

Recommended Alternate Routes to Avoid Congestion: Anthony Henday Drive, Stony Plain Road, Groat Road

Before you begin your commute, check current traffic conditions online at www.edmontontraffcam.com



Pedestrian/Cyclist Shuttle

The City of Edmonton continues to provide a free shuttle service through the construction zone for the safety of pedestrian and cyclist traffic. The drop off/pick up points are on Fox Drive at the Fort Edmonton Park entrance and on Laurier Drive at 142 A Street.

The shuttle, which includes bike racks and wheelchair accessibility, runs every half hour between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., seven days a week for the duration of the project (until November 2010). For more information about the shuttle service, visit: www.edmonton.ca/quesnellbridge.

Winter Conditions

During the winter months, tow trucks will be standing by near the construction site to quickly deal with and clear collisions and other traffic incidents. Please keep in mind that cold weather and precipitation can lead to slippery conditions on bridge decks. Although the City of Edmonton makes it a priority to sand bridges, motorists are asked to take extra caution when the conditions call for it.



Construction Zone Safety Tips

For everyone's safety, including your own, remember these important construction zone safety tips:

- » Slow down and drive the posted speed limit
- » Pay close attention to all signs
- » Be prepared to stop in all construction zones
- » Move to the open lane when you see a sign noting one lane is ending
- » Plan an alternate route and give yourself extra time to reach your destination

For a complete map of current City of Edmonton transportation construction projects, visit www.edmonton.ca/transportation and click on current road projects.

For more information, call 3-1-1 or email quesnell@edmonton.ca