

March 16, 2015

City of Edmonton

Groat Road remains closed

Public safety top priority as City assesses 102 Ave Bridge girders

Groat Road will remain closed to traffic on Tuesday, March 17 as the City and its contract partners work to repair or remove several steel girders that buckled during installation for the 102 Ave Bridge Replacement Project.

At approximately 2:15 a.m. on Monday, March 16 four of the girders buckled as one of the girders was being installed. Construction teams immediately secured the construction site for worker and public safety and initiated an investigation.

"Under the City's oversight, several engineering teams are investigating the situation to determine exactly what went wrong here," said Barry Belcourt, Branch Manager of the Roads Design & Construction Branch with the City of Edmonton. "At this point in time we are not able to identify a single factor that caused the girders to fail.

"Regardless of the cause, public safety is paramount and we can't have anyone traveling underneath the bridge until it's safe to do so. Therefore Groat Road must unfortunately remain closed until further notice."

The City will continue to provide public updates as the investigation proceeds, and will notify Edmonton residents as soon as Groat Road can be safely opened. Suggested detour routes during the closure include Victoria Park Road, 149 Street to Whitemud Drive, and 109 Street to the High Level Bridge. ETS Route 128 will detour to Victoria Park Road/116 Street/107 Avenue, with extra buses on Saturday, March 14 to make up for the delay. More information is available at <u>www.takeets.com</u>.

The City appreciates everyone's patience as we work to open Groat Road as quickly as possible, and to complete the 102 Ave Bridge Replacment Project.

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