

102 Ave Bridge Project/Groat Road closure update

Crews installing seventh girder for stabilization

The City of Edmonton and contract crews are making progress with the stabilization strategy for the girders on the 102 Ave Bridge Replacement Project and preparing to install a seventh girder.

Four bridge girders buckled on March 16, 2015 during installation, requiring the ongoing closure of Groat Road. The City and contract crews initiated a three-week strategy to stabilize the girders as quickly and safely as possible in order to re-open Groat Road on or before April 7, 2015.

"A lot of work is happening on site and behind the scenes and we are on track to meet our strategy's second-week goals," said Barry Belcourt, Branch Manager, Roads Design and Construction. "We understand the need to open Groat Road to traffic as soon as possible, but we need to be absolutely certain that the structure is completely stable first. Public and worker safety remains our top priority."

Through a series of gradual, orchestrated movements, five cranes are being used to shift the weight of the girders from the bridge onto the cranes. Some girders have shown minor movement since the crane lifts began on March 24, and crews have been installing bracing between them. Installing the seventh girder is expected to help stabilize the overall structure, which in turn will allow removal of the cranes and the re-opening of Groat Road.

Once the girders are stabilized and traffic is flowing on Groat Road the City can begin a thorough inspection of the damaged girders in order to determine whether they need to be repaired or replaced. Further closures of Groat Road during evenings and weekends will be required.

The City continues to monitor and manage traffic issues related to the ongoing closures of Groat Road and 102 Avenue. Existing traffic detours, signal modifications and parking bans remain in place.

The City thanks everyone for their patience as we work to resolve the 102 Ave Bridge girder situation.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/102avenueovergroat

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