



City of Lucas
Public Works/Engineering
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Blondy Jhune Bridges Construction Update #13

Dear All,

Now that all the holidays are over and a new year has started, it is time to get back to work and provide another update. On the south side of the west bridge most of the work is done on the abutments, retaining walls, and gabions. The abutment cap and retaining walls are not finished on the north side of the west bridge.

The purpose of the gabions is to protect the drill shafts and retaining walls from the water flow.



West Bridge North Side Gabions

Each gabion is held in place by the force of its own weight. In the photo, the crews are tying the steel for the abutment cap that the bridge beams will be set on next month.

The east bridge is about a month behind the west bridge, but some of this time can be made up. Several modification to the east bridge were needed to miss underground utilities. All the extra work has been completed. The working space on the east bridge is tighter as well, which has an impact on the construction schedule.

The contractor has provided an update schedule, and the estimated bridge openings are still scheduled for mid-May 2017. In the second update dated July 27, 2016, the bridges were scheduled to be closed from October 2016 to March/April 2017. After the ordering of the beams in September, the contractor updated the schedule, and the closure span was change to September to May. There is six week of slip in the current schedule. Based on the construction activity, as much as four of the six weeks have been used up dealing with unforeseen delays. The contractor is planning make up some of the lost time.

Save the date for the next transportation town hall meeting on **January 26, 2017, at 6:30 pm** at Lucas City Hall. Be thinking about what kind of roadways best fit your vision for the future of Lucas.

Sincerely,
Stanton Foerster, PE
Public Works Director/City Engineer