



LANSING BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

The Bridge is Open!

After closing the existing bridge on Feb. 25 for repairs, the bridge reopened less than two months later on April 20! With the repairs completed and the bridge thoroughly inspected and declared safe, vehicle traffic is now able to cross the Mississippi River at Lansing once again!



Completing inspection of bridge repair

We want to thank everyone involved with getting the bridge open again so quickly, starting with our prime contractor, Kraemer North America. KNA worked nearly every day, weekends included, in all kinds of weather to get the bridge repaired and back open while still making progress on building the new bridge.

We also want to thank our partners in helping get people across the river by using the water taxi/shuttle service. Maiden Voyage Tours, Luxxor Limousine, EARL Public Transit, and Running, Inc. They made it possible for eight daily trips across the river instead of everyone taking a 70-plus mile detour. Like KNA, they operated in wind, rain, and snow to make sure people were able to get quickly and efficiently across the river.

And we can't forget all the drivers, businesses and residents affected by the closure. Your patience, feedback, and support were incredible! It made all the work and effort to make the repairs and reopening happen so much easier.

One more thing concerning the bridge opening. If you travel on the bridge from the Wisconsin side, you'll notice new, temporary traffic signals on Wisconsin Highway 82 near the bridge. The signals are a safety feature put in place to stop traffic only when the contractor needs to move equipment and deliver materials to the job site. The signals are expected to remain "green" the majority of the time except for when a vehicle approaches from the construction areas causing a temporary stop.



Temporary traffic signal on WI 82

Now, an update on construction of the new bridge!

So much of the work the past several months has taken place underground, but we are starting to get a better look at the footprint of the new bridge above ground. We can now see the two easternmost piers for the new bridge taking shape. Pier 5 is pretty much complete and ready to hold up the Wisconsin side of the new bridge. Pier 4 is also taking shape. When complete it will also have arches and hold the other end of the beams stretching between piers 4 and 5.



New Pier 5

Now we move to the eastern bank of the Mississippi River and pier 3. The footing for this pier will be supported by three drilled shafts that are 9-feet wide, approximately 140-feet deep, and filled with concrete. Two of the drilled shafts are complete and the third will be ready for concrete soon.



Pier 2 construction activity

Work is also taking place in the river where pier 2 will rise from the water. This pier will also have a footing sitting on three drilled shafts. The contractor is working with a large crane on a barge getting everything ready to start drilling deep into the riverbed for these shafts.

Don't forget, you can learn more about the existing bridge and the new bridge by going to <https://iowadot.gov/lansingbridge>. This website also has a live webcam where you can watch the progress as the contractor moves forward with construction of the new bridge.