

Project FAQ

Will the bridge be open during construction?

- Yes, well mostly. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane in each direction for most of the project, however approximately 8 short-term detours of up to 3 days each will be needed during the project.

Why is the center median being removed on the bridge?

- There isn't enough room on the existing structure to accommodate the shared use requirements for four driving lanes, a bike/ped path and shoulders.

Why not build a new bridge rather than restore the existing Kennedy Bridge?

- All options were explored, but reconstruction was selected because of the age, condition, historic nature and overall costs to replace vs rehabilitate.

Why is a shared-use path/bike trail being added on the bridge? Could it have been added outside of the truss similar to the Sorlie bridge?

- To provide a safe bike and pedestrian connection between the two communities. Because of the historic nature and the design of the current bridge, an additional structure was unfeasible.

Why is the pier being replaced on the bridge?

- The soils along the existing pier have been very slowly sliding toward the river. While the existing pier and supports are designed to accommodate for this movement by making adjustments to the supports, the movement has reached the capacity of system and no further adjustments can be made, resulting in the need to replace the pier.

Will there be an aesthetic lighting system similar to what was recently added to the Sorlie Bridge?

- There will be additional lighting installed, but at this time it won't display colors like the Sorlie Bridge.

Stay Informed & Involved

Website

For more detail, including project details and maps:

www.mndot.gov/d2/projects/kennedybridge

Email Updates

Get the latest news and information by subscribing to email updates. You'll receive the current schedule of work, completed items, and upcoming impacts to motorists. Sign up on the project website or email: tj.melcher@state.mn.us

We're In This Together

Understanding the high impacts of summer construction on this important border crossing, most of the project will be constructed under traffic. Although occasional detours are required they will be limited in duration. Our goal is to reconstruct the Kennedy Bridge as safely and quickly as possible.

MnDOT Contacts

For further information on this project please contact:

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KENNEDY BRIDGE

East Grand Forks



Construction
2017 - 2018

[www.mndot.gov/d2/projects/
kennedybridge](http://www.mndot.gov/d2/projects/kennedybridge)

General Project Details

2017

March 1- Open House

March 15: Construction begins

2018

Construction concludes

Impacts

Lane closures

Occasional short term detours

Height / Weight restrictions

Benefits

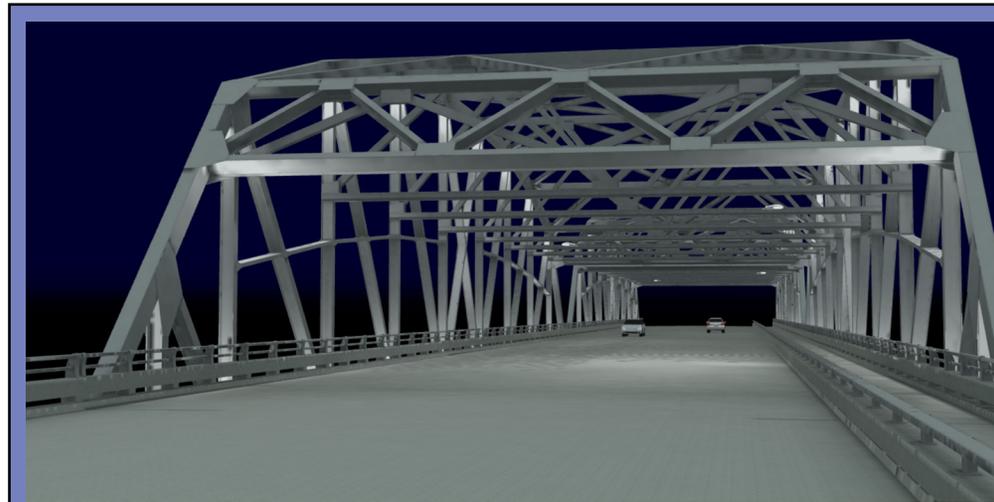
Safer and longer lasting bridge

Smoother and longer lasting bridge deck

Safer walkway for pedestrians and bicyclists

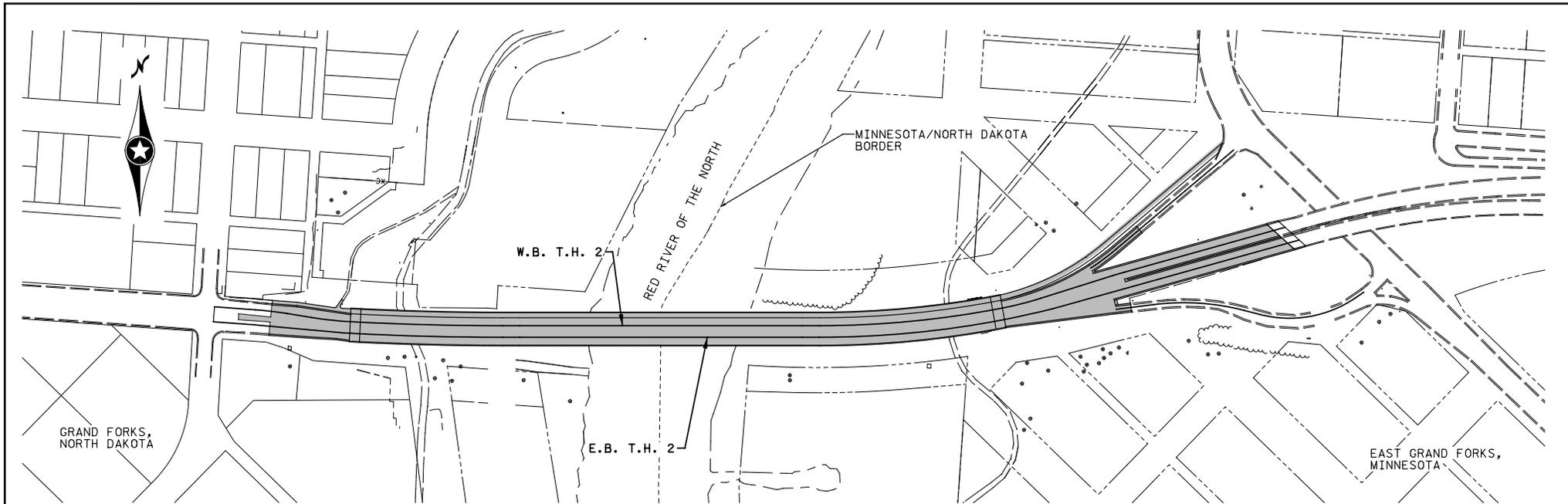
Cost

\$15.66 million (split between Minnesota and North Dakota)



A new look

The new bridge deck will feature a dedicated lane for bikes and pedestrians.



The existing structure of the bridge will be maintained, as the final design features a complete deck replacement, pier replacement, structural repairs and new lighting. The new layout features four lanes of traffic and adds an additional protected walkway that will connect the Greenway Trail on each side of the river

