



Highway 8 Eastbound Elbow River Bridge

Spring 2026 Update

Beginning in early March for several weeks, onsite activities will intensify as weather permits, and the 2026 construction season approaches.

Upcoming Work: Construction of New Eastbound Bridge

Construction of the new eastbound bridge will continue into 2026. This new bridge will be realigned to improve safety, providing two lanes of travel for eastbound traffic on Highway 8 travelling over the Elbow River. Realigning the bridge will also reduce the overall footprint in the river.

Girder Delivery and Installation

Girders (large concrete beams which support the structure of a bridge) will be delivered for the construction of the new eastbound bridge. To ensure the safety of the travelling public and workers, temporary, short-duration traffic stoppages will be required when girders enter the site from Highway 8. Both eastbound and westbound traffic will be impacted. Details will be communicated via signage onsite, and stoppages will be directed by onsite personnel.

Demolition of Decommissioned Bridge

The original bridge has been closed for several years with all traffic temporarily moved onto the new westbound bridge until the new eastbound bridge is completed. Demolition activities are expected to have minimal traffic impacts because traffic will be maintained on the westbound bridge. The decommissioned bridge has reached the end of its service life and does not meet current highway and safety standards. Demolishing the existing bridge to accommodate the new bridge is the safest and most cost-effective option.

Intersection Improvements at Lott Creek Boulevard

Upgrades will be made to the intersection of Lott Creek Boulevard to improve overall safety and capacity at this busy intersection and to accommodate twinning of Highway 8. These upgrades will include the addition of separate lanes for left turning vehicles off Highway 8 for both eastbound and westbound traffic. The intersection will remain open during construction of these improvements; however, unpaved gravel detours are expected to maintain vehicle access to this area during construction. Traffic impacts will be communicated through onsite signage.

Paving

Paving activities will continue within the project area over the construction season. This will include paving the final lifts (layers) of asphalt in many areas and tying newly built sections into the existing roadway.

Safety Reminder

Construction zones are a place of work; be aware that heavy equipment is operating in the area. For your own safety, and the safety of those working on site, please obey signage, stay off the construction site, and follow the posted speed limit of 60 km/hr.

What to expect

Work Hours

While the contractor is permitted to work 24/7 when required for the completion of work, work will primarily occur during daytime non-peak hours to reduce overall public impact.

Traffic Impacts

During construction, reduced speed limits will remain in force, and temporary, short-duration traffic stoppages will be required to facilitate the safe completion of some activities. Traffic impacts will be communicated through onsite signage, and traffic stoppages will be directed by on-site personnel. Members of the public are reminded to use caution and obey onsite signage and personnel when travelling through the area.

Noise

While efforts are made to mitigate noise and reduce public impact where possible, some noise is expected with construction work.

Dust

Dust is a part of construction projects and may increase as work ramps up. Efforts will be made to mitigate dust during construction, such as using water trucks on haul routes.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get in touch with the project team?

Please direct your inquiries to the project team by email at tec.hwy8bridge@gov.ab.ca.

Where can I find information on traffic impacts?

Highway 8 is a provincial highway, and traffic updates and road conditions are reported through 511 Alberta (511.alberta.ca). For updates regarding city roadways please refer to the City of Calgary's Traffic Information Map (maps.calgary.ca/TrafficInformation).

Where can I find more information about the project?

More information and details about the Highway 8 Improvements can be found at alberta.ca/highway-8-improvements-eastbound-elbow-river-bridge.

What are the timelines?

Construction is anticipated to continue through the 2026 construction season.