



# I-94 Modernization Project e-Update

June 2018

Welcome to the I-94 e-Update. Every month, we'll be sending you the latest happenings on the I-94 project. We'd love to hear from you, too!

## Advanced Bridges

At Gratiot Avenue, crews continue to work on the major elements of the bridge substructure. This means pouring loads of concrete to create the middle pier, and the abutments which support the bridge beams. After setting the beams, the concrete bridge deck will be poured.

New abutments are also being constructed at the Chene Street bridge. The new Chene Street bridge will be longer and wider than the old structure. The additional length is necessary to accommodate the future mainline freeway alignment that shifts 50 feet north of the current alignment. The extra width will accommodate



The new south abutment wall of the Chene Street bridge. The beams will sit atop the wall. Notice the wall's design? It's an aesthetic finish called Constellation that will make the bridge more attractive.

an additional lane for cars and trucks as well as wider sidewalks for non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians.

To save time and maximize resources, MDOT is designing and building all the advanced bridges to accommodate the future alignment of the mainline freeway. This means adjusting the location of some of the bridges, including the one at Chene Street.

## Weekend Closure — Friday, June 15

To keep the work at the Chene Street and Gratiot Avenue bridges moving forward, **MDOT will close the I-94 freeway beginning Friday, June 15 at 9 p.m., weather permitting.** This will require closing I-94 between Conner Avenue and I-75 for the weekend. **All lanes of the freeway are expected to reopen by Monday, June 18 at 5 a.m..** There are more details about the closure at [www.i94Detroit.org](http://www.i94Detroit.org).

## Public Engagement

The project team participated in Resident Roundtable community events on both the east and west sides of the project corridor recently. The first, on April 25, was hosted by the Eastside Community Network (ECN) at their office on Conner Avenue; the second, on May 22, was hosted by Detroit City Council President Pro Tempore Mary Sheffield at Next Energy in Tech Town. Both events focused



Construction workers adjust concrete forms to set the Gratiot Avenue bridge abutment walls. The pattern for the Constellation aesthetic finish is part of the form and will be imprinted on the new walls.

## Public Engagement, cont.

on giving people who live and work within or near the project corridor the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed design modifications.

Lively discussion on a diverse list of topics followed each presentation. Among them were: storm water management, accessing workforce development opportunities, the future of the Ferry and Third Street bridges, and how MDOT is integrating sustainable design elements including green infrastructure and Complete Streets into the project.

Special thanks to Andrea Benson and her team for hosting the April meeting at ECN, and to Detroit City Council President Pro Tempore Mary Sheffield and her team for hosting the District 5 meeting in May.

## Third Street Bridge

On December 12, 2017, MDOT engineers conducted a detailed bridge inspection on the Third Street overpass above I-94. The inspection revealed advanced deterioration to the support structure which caused MDOT to close the bridge to all traffic.

Since then, MDOT has partnered with the city of Detroit, the owner and operator of Third Street, to make several improvements to enhance safety and traffic flow. These include converting Third Street to a two-way street between I-94 and York Street, upgrading the existing traffic signal at Antionette Street, and installing new pavement markings.

Accommodations can be made for persons with disabilities and limited English-speaking ability. Large print materials, auxiliary aids, or the services of interpreters, signers, or readers are available upon request.

Please call Anita Richardson at **517-373-9534** to request accommodations at least seven days before the meeting date.



Questions submitted by residents guided discussion at the ECN meeting. They will also inform the project team as they continue work on the proposed project design modifications.



District 5 meeting participants took the opportunity to review and comment on proposed design modifications.

## Learn Even More

### I-94 Project Office

3031 West Grand Boulevard,  
Suite 236,  
Detroit, MI 48202

### MDOT Project Manager

Terry Stepanski, P.E.  
E-mail: [stepanskitt@michigan.gov](mailto:stepanskitt@michigan.gov)  
Phone: 517-241-0233

### MDOT Communications

Rob Morosi  
E-mail: [mosir@michigan.gov](mailto:mosir@michigan.gov)  
Phone: 248-483-5107

### Visit the new I-94 Project website

[www.i94Detroit.org](http://www.i94Detroit.org)

### Follow us on social media

Twitter: [@i94Detroit](https://twitter.com/i94Detroit)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/i94Detroit/](https://www.facebook.com/i94Detroit/)

### Send us comments and questions

[i94detroit@gmail.com](mailto:i94detroit@gmail.com)