



Fact Sheet / Backgrounder

Marquis of Lorne S.E. / 22X Bridge over the Bow River

Project Completion: September 2007

Project Budget: \$25.1 million

General Facts

- The north bridge, which will carry westbound traffic, will be opened to both lanes of traffic late Friday afternoon.
- The south bridge will maintain its single eastbound lane once westbound traffic has been directed onto the new bridge. Once westbound traffic is off the south bridge, appropriate traffic lines will be marked and a second eastbound lane will open Friday evening.
- With more than 31,000 vehicles daily on this stretch of highway, the newly twinned Marquis of Lorne Trail S.E. will be able to handle that number and more as Calgary continues to grow. The new bridge has been constructed with a third lane that can be opened to traffic in the future.
- Marquis of Lorne Trail S.E. is now twinned from Deerfoot Trail to Macleod Trail.
- Marquis of Lorne Trail S.E. (Highway 22X) will be part of Calgary's future ring road.

Environmental Sustainability

When constructing this crossing over one of Alberta's wildlife areas, the Bow River's sensitive ecosystem and highly populated trout population were carefully considered in the design and construction of the bridge. For example:

- The bridge was designed with two bridge piers in the river instead of the existing three piers on the south bridge, which decreases the overall environmental foot print on the Bow River.
- A silt curtain was put in place down stream from the construction area to catch sediment disrupted by bridge construction.
- All water run-off from the bridge was directed, and will continue to be directed, to contained water ponds, which will prevent contamination in the Bow River.
- A wildlife fence was constructed to protect land animals and keep them at a safe distance from the high-traffic area.
- All construction was completed within the allowable in-stream periods so not to disrupt the trout population during spawning season.
- The bridge represents a sustainable relationship between a growing Calgary and its surrounding natural environment.

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Fact Sheet / Backgrounder continued...

A Safer Drive

It turns what was once considered a dangerous stretch of road into a safe and easy drive over the Bow River.

- There have been more than 100 car accidents per year from 2002 to 2006 on 22X between McKenzie Lake Boulevard and Sun Valley Boulevard including two fatalities.
- Before this project began four lanes of traffic were merging into two lanes.
- Now there's no transition and no added stress due to unnecessary lane changes.

Public Art

Artist Roger Gaudreau composed an art piece called "Tracking the Trail." It is composed of earth tone coloured strips of granite that resemble a trail through a forest. Embedded in the "trail" are animal and human footprints.

This art piece refers to the geology in the area - humans and wild life sharing the surrounding environment. In total, four strips (or trails) will be mounted on the two piers, one on each side, for pathway users to enjoy.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects to be complete in 2007

The new, twinned Marquis of Lorne Bridge over the Bow River is one of five major Transportation Infrastructure projects scheduled for completion this construction season:

- McKnight Boulevard / 36 Street N.E. Interchange
- Marquis of Lorne / 22X Bridge over the Bow River
- Glenmore Trail / Elbow Drive / 5th Street Interchange Project
- Nose Hill Drive Interchange
- Northeast LRT Extension

For more information, please contact:

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