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## November - December 2024





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## Harbor Bridge Project Opens New IH 37 Frontage Road Bridge

In November, HBP roadworks opened a new IH 37 frontage road extension to a new two-lane bridge from Port Avenue to Staples Street (Uptown area), with a ramp for northbound US 181 commuters. The new connection provides an improved route for northside neighborhood residents and businesses along Port Avenue. As we advance into Phase II construction of removing the old Harbor Bridge and connecting roadways, commuters heading southbound on the new Harbor Bridge US 181 alignment will utilize a loop ramp to merge onto the newly opened frontage road bridge to access IH 37 towards the Bayfront area.

Bridge construction materials include 850 cubic yards of concrete and 143,000 pounds of rebar. The foundation of the new roadway bridge is supported by 35 precast concrete piles driven 2,350 linear feet below the surface. There are two abutments and three substructure piers -each pier has two footings, two columns, and one pier cap. Four spans of 21 precast girders at 2,540 total linear feet, and the abutments comprise the 480-foot bridge length. Clearance beneath the overpass will be a minimum of 18 feet, five inches for US 181 mainlanes and about 17 feet, five inches for the frontage roads.

## Cable Stayed Bridge Upcoming Milestones

Segment transports from the Robstown PreCast yard to the pylons will be complete in early December.

• The last delta frames (84 total) will be lifted and installed by mid-December.

Installation of the last set of stay cables will be complete before Christmas. Each cycle on each tower has four stay pipes -two on the back and two on the main spans. Each stay in the last cycle (19) will hold 121 strands of 880-foot epoxy-coated cables.
The transition closure to the approach bridges on the back span side of the towers

will begin in early January.

• Installation of the final ten segments to close the 50-foot center gap over the ship channel will take several weeks and run through late January 2025.







