Bridge replacement project

BY GREG OLIVER
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CLEMSON — The project to remove a bridge at the intersection of U.S. Highway 123 and S.C. Highway 133 in Clemson is showing visible signs of progress.

State Rep. Gary Clary, who has been closely following the project, told The Journal this week that demolition of the deck and removal of the bridge beams on the existing deck were expected to continue throughout the week. Clary added that demolition of the middle pier of the existing bridge was planned as well.

"Installation of bridge piles are beginning this month," Clary said.

Clary added that Wall 2C is expected to be complete "after two more pours."

"There will be other items, such as a concrete ditch behind it and installation of the rail on top, before it is totally finished," he said.

The drilled shaft contractor, Clary added, is not expected to begin work until after the first of the year.

The project to widen S.C. Highway 133 and replace the bridge, first announced in 2009, has experienced numerous delays. Even the demolition of the existing bridge, scheduled to take place in June, was temporarily halted when asbestos was discovered and removal required.

Last month, the demolition phase of the project officially began on the southbound side of the road — closest to Sonic — and both southbound lanes were shut down while work took place. Clary said at the time that workers were in the process of dismantling the old train trestle.

Clary also said the city

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showing signs of progress



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Crews have been hard at work demolishing the old bridge at the intersection of U.S. Highway 123 and S.C. Highway 133 in Clemson.

BRIDGE: Clary feels positive about project

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will perform additional beautification work, such as repaving and restriping, as part of the project.

Alan Adams, Pickens assistant resident construction engineer for the South Carolina Department of Transportation, said last month he expected the bridge demolition portion wouldn't be completed until early next year and set a new completion date for the overall project of mid-May 2018.

Clary said he feels positive about where the project currently stands.

"I think (SCDOT officials are) pleased with the progress they're making and the steps in getting the highway portion complete so they can devote their attention to construction of the platform," Clary said. "At least that won't affect the day-to-day work."

goliver@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6687
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