The bridges on Montana Highway 81, otherwise known as Denton Highway, are aging and in need of replacement.

Department of Transportation (MDT) is launching the MT-81 Bridges project to replace three bridges between Lewistown and Denton. These bridges are located at Judith River, Warm Spring Creek, and an irrigation canal near Meadow Creek Road.

The Montana Department of Transportation thanks residents for their patience as we implement this important safety project. If you have any concerns, please reach out to us via the information below.

Email: Contact hello@bigskypublicrelations.com to subscribe
Project hotline: 406-207-4484 Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm
Visit: https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/mt81bridges/
Construction is anticipated to start in early April as the weather starts to warm. Weather permitting, the project will wrap up by the end of 2020.

Construction schedules for each structure are expected to be staggered:
- Irrigation canal near Meadow Creek Road: April – May 2020
- Warm Spring Creek Bridge: May – August 2020
- Judith River Bridge: May – October 2020

In addition, the irrigation canal will be transformed into a box culvert, a tunnel-like structure that will allow water to flow underneath the road. The Judith River and Warm Spring Creek bridges will be fully reconstructed.

Work hours for construction will typically be 7 am - 7 pm, Monday – Friday, with Saturdays as needed.

The Montana Department of Transportation will coordinate with trucks hauling wide loads to make every reasonable effort to safely route these vehicles through the project. Delays will be minimal for passenger cars. Closures will be limited to one-lane, making travel for passenger cars relatively easy.

While these bridges are currently safe to drive on, it is critical to fix problems now before they become too compromised. These bridges are more than 70 years old and are still trying to accommodate the same large weights and vehicles. They are due for improvement.

Learn more about Vision Zero at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero