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Comal River Recreation Resumes Following San Antonio Street Bridge Reconstruction Milestone

New Braunfels, TX – At last night’s New Braunfels City Council meeting, TxDOT announced that their contractor for the reconstruction of the San Antonio Street Bridge, Capital Excavation, has reached a project milestone in their construction timeline, which will once again allow for river access underneath the bridge.

The reconstruction portion of the bridge project is now complete; therefore, river recreation under the bridge can resume. City crews have spent the morning removing the buoys from the area that has been closed since last September and getting the Last Public Exit ready for use by river-goers. As was initially stated when the city’s river parks were reopened last week, the City of New Braunfels is following Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s guidelines for reopening. The City’s goal is to create an environment where social distancing is possible for those that choose to enjoy the parks and rivers. However, park-goers also have a responsibility to help limit the spread of COVID-19 and should commit to following the Governor’s orders and safety precautions, including social distancing.

As for the San Antonio Street Bridge Reconstruction project, there is still work that needs to be done before the project reaches final completion. The remaining items include the construction of concrete bridge rail (on the portions of the project that are not above the river), paving and striping, and the installation of light fixtures.

The \$4.5 million dollar project to widen the bridge from 30-feet to 48-feet began in September of 2019. When complete, the newly reconstructed bridge will feature 15-foot wide vehicle lanes with shoulders and 8-foot wide sidewalks for pedestrians on each side of the bridge. TxDOT currently estimates that vehicle traffic will resume in early August with the entire project expected to be complete by Labor Day 2020, weather permitting.

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