

Bike to the Future's suggestions during Osborne Bridge construction

- If coming from the west, and if possible, try crossing at the Maryland or Omand's Park bridges.
- If coming from the east, try crossing via Queen Elizabeth Way.
- If you must cross the Osborne Bridge, then
 - walk your bicycle along the sidewalk, or ride your bike in the traffic lanes over the Osborne Bridge, taking the lane.
 - Motorists need to be patient and need to pass at a safe distance. If they cannot give a full metre when passing, they must wait behind the cyclist. The Winnipeg Police Service will need to exercise as much vigilance in enforcing the safe passing distance requirement as they have shown enforcing the sidewalk cycling prohibition.
 - We recommend signage indicating cyclists may take the full lane.
- If you must cross Osborne at the Assiniboine/Mostyn intersection, then
 - walk your bike along the sidewalk to Broadway, cross at Broadway, and then walk back along the sidewalk, or
 - cycling, from the west:
 - Turn north at Colony, cycle to Broadway, turn east onto Broadway.
 - Motorists need to be patient and need to pass at a safe distance. If they cannot give a full metre when passing, they must wait behind the cyclist. The Winnipeg Police Service will need to exercise as much vigilance in enforcing the safe passing distance requirement as they have shown enforcing the sidewalk cycling prohibition
 - Turn into the legislative grounds parking lot and proceed towards Assiniboine.
 - cycling, from the east (this is tentative, and it needs a volunteer to work with the City and Legislature):
 - We recommend temporary removal of parking between the trail access on Assiniboine and the entrance to the legislative parking lot just west of Kennedy.
 - Cyclists would travel in a temporary counter-flow bicycle lane between the Legislative grounds trail access and the eastern entrance to the Legislative parking lot.
 - Turn into the legislative parking lot and head towards Broadway.
 - Activate the pedestrian crossing at Broadway. We recommend a temporary push button be installed to help cyclists activate the pedestrian crossing, and signage asking eastbound traffic on Broadway to stop in front of Memorial when the pedestrian crossing is activated.
 - Cross onto Broadway and proceed west, continue west on Broadway to Balmoral.
 - At Balmoral, stop, dismount, and cross Broadway at the pedestrian crossing. (This is the awkward part of the rerouting, since Balmoral does not line up. The city should look at allowing cyclists onto the short stretch of sidewalk between Balmoral and Balmoral on the north side of Broadway.)
 - Motorists need to be patient and need to pass at a safe distance. If they cannot give a full metre when passing, they must wait behind the cyclist. The Winnipeg Police Service will need to exercise as much vigilance in enforcing the safe passing distance requirement as they have shown enforcing the sidewalk cycling prohibition.
 - We should check to see if we could not commandeer a lane between Memorial and Osborne.
 - We may need to consider asking cyclists to take the lane near Osborne to avoid right hooks.

Once the river levels subside, the city will be installing a sheltered walkway beneath the Osborne Bridge as required for a construction site. Because of the limited height of the bridge, heavier than usual pedestrian traffic due to the Bridge sidewalk closure, and a desire to raise the pathway here to prevent future closings due to flooding, cyclists will have to dismount when crossing under the bridge. This is a temporary measure. We recommend that the temporary structure be removed once construction has ended for the season, and that the pathway be returned to normal use for the winter season before the temporary measures are restored again for next years construction work. Cyclists should note the fence hazards at both ends of this multi-use path. Unfortunately, although brought to the attention of the City very early in the process by the Osborne Bridge Neighbourhood Advisory Committee, it is our understanding that these hazards will not be removed as part of the Osborne Bridge Project.