



City of Folsom Newsletter

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October 2007

On the road to the bridge



With scenic views of Folsom Lake as a backdrop, a scraper – a piece of heavy equipment that moves dirt and rock – hooks onto the back of another scraper. Kiewit crews are using the vehicles to cut

down a hill in preparation for building the road from East Natoma Street to the bridge at Folsom Dam. To find out why these machines need to latch together, and what else they do, see the story in the bridge section.

Plan for water meters

Metering south of the river will begin in 2012

Folsom residents south of the American River can expect to be converted to metered water billing in January 2012.

The City Council in August adopted a water meter implementation plan that calls for the 2012 start date and also supported a pilot test of meter-reading technology for about 1,000 homes and a year of comparative billing before metered billing begins.

All the affected residences will be switched to
See **Meters**, page 2

What's Happening

◆ Save the date: This year's annual **Veterans Day parade** will be **Nov. 12**, the Monday holiday. The event starts at 9 a.m. – rain or shine – at the Mervyn's parking lot on East Bidwell Street and follows Natoma Street to the Community Center, where free refreshments will be served.



Inside

◆ Folsom joins the nation in celebrating **Arts and Humanities Month in October**. Special programs include the Renaissance Faire and arts exhibits. See the full list on page 4.

Meters (from page 1)

metered billing at one time. The January start date was chosen so billing could begin in the lowest water-use period to give residents additional time to adjust their usage, if necessary.

This billing change will affect only the 17,000 residences south of the river. The 900 residences north of the river have been metered since January 2006, the date required by their contract with their water provider, San Juan Water District of Placer County. Nonresidential customers also are on metered billing.

The implementation plan was developed by Utilities Department staff, the Utility Commission and an ad hoc residents Meter Advisory Group. Among the issues it addresses are costs, staffing, schedule, meter installation and reading, and public outreach.

Before metering begins, the plan calls for the city to:

- install meters at about 5,700 residences, all built before 1992, that don't yet have them. This work will be completed between 2008 and 2010.
- conduct a pilot study of about 1,000 metered homes to test the "fixed-network" system of meter reading. This method uses computer technology to transmit water-use data rather than people to manually scan the meters. Though startup costs are higher, this system would result in long-term savings through lower staffing costs. It also would provide more data, including pinpointing leaks. The study is expected to start this year.

- provide residents with a year of comparative billing immediately before metering begins. For this period, meters would be read and the metered rates shown on the bills, but residents would still pay the flat fee. Comparative billing will give residents a guideline for reducing their water usage, if necessary, before metered billing begins.

- keep residents informed of the progress of water meter implementation and recommend water conservation practices through a public information program.

The city is converting from its flat-rate water charge to metered billing to comply with California law and also to meet its voluntary commitment to the regional Water Forum Agreement, which Folsom signed in 2000.

State law requires urban water agencies that receive water from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Central Valley Project – which covers most of the state – to begin metered billing by March 2013. Most of Folsom Lake is Central Valley Project water.

Folsom has opted to begin metered billing 14 months before the deadline to allow time to monitor the service.

As a member of the Water Forum, Folsom is one of more than 40 agencies, organizations and environmental-

ists that have agreed to work cooperatively to protect the water in the lower American River. The group's primary goals are to ensure the Sacramento area continues to have a safe, reliable water supply and to preserve the river as a habitat for wildlife and an asset for the region.

All Water Forum members have committed to conserving water. Metering has been shown to reduce water consumption, mostly by curbing overuse, by as much as 10 to 20 percent.

"People often don't realize how much water they use until they are paying for it," says Todd Eising, Utilities Department senior engineer. Water use at homes north of the river has gone down since the metered billing began.

"Water is a finite and precious resource," Eising adds. "Reducing our consumption is responsible stewardship of our river and it benefits the entire region."

You can review a copy of the water meter implementation plan at the City Clerk's department at City Hall or in the Folsom Public Library.

If you see water that may be leaking from city pipes, call 355-7200.

When Mother Nature waters ...

As a member of the regional Water Forum, the city of Folsom has agreed to conserve water and help protect the American River. The coming cool and rainy seasons signal the time for homeowners to reduce their landscape watering and exercise more vigilance in preventing pollutants from flowing into the creeks and river.

Here are some tips on winter watering from Don Smith, water management coordinator, and on creek protection from Sarah Amaya, Public Works engineer.

To save water:

- cut back on irrigation by reducing the length of time and frequency your sprinklers run. Most plants go dormant in winter and need little or no water. When the rains start, you can turn your sprinklers off and let Mother Nature water for you.

- call 355-7252 for a free survey and tuneup of your irrigation system and help reprogramming the timing.

To keep pollutants out of the waterways:

- keep yards, sidewalks and streets clean so rain doesn't wash dirt and debris into the storm drains;
- compost or recycle fall yard and leaf debris; don't dump it where it will wash into drains.

- drain your pool properly. For information, download a brochure at sactostormwater.org/outreach.asp (select "brochures").

- report drainage problems you see to 355-7272.

City shares a Putnam award

The city of Folsom is a joint winner of a League of California Cities' Helen Putnam award for its role in the Highway 50 Corridor Mobility Partnership.

The award – for effective advocacy, intergovernmental relations and regional cooperation – is shared by the group's four public partners – the cities of Folsom and Rancho Cordova and Sacramento and El Dorado counties.

In a first for the region, the partnership also includes four private landowners – GenCorp Realty Investments, Elliott Homes, AKT Development and Carpenter Ranch.

The partnership formed in 2005 to seek ways to reduce traffic congestion, improve mobility and provide more transportation choices along the Highway 50 corridor. That area is forecast to grow by 78,000 homes and 53,000 jobs during the next 25 years.

Last year, the partnership identified 10 projects that could reduce commute times on Highway 50 by 30 percent in the next five years.

The city previously won Helen Putnam awards for the Lake Natoma Crossing and the Historic Truss Bridge.

Photo contest closes Nov. 19

If you've taken a stunning photograph of a Folsom person, place or bridge, consider submitting it in the second Folsom Focus photography contest. The

deadline is Nov. 19.

New this year: cash prizes to winners, a cell phone category and separate competitions for black-and-white and color. Pictures are judged by age group (under 12, 12-17 and 18 and older).

The six categories are: digital (computer-enhanced) art; Folsom faces; Folsom bridges; the outdoors (with or without animals or people); the old and the new (representing Folsom history); and cell phone (a slice of life you've captured with your phone).

The winners will be announced at the Senior and Arts Center on Dec. 7, and the winning photographs and other entries will be displayed in the public gallery there.

The contest is sponsored by the Folsom Patrons of the Arts. For more information or to download an entry form, see patronsofhearts.org.

New fields for Livermore Park

Livermore Community Park, at nearly 30 acres one of the city's largest developed parks, will have two new softball fields, a new soccer field and two more parking lots by next summer. All three fields will be lighted.

Construction of the fourth phase of the park will begin in October and should be completed by July. The cost will be \$1.8 million.

Livermore Park, on Riley Street, is distinctive for its interactive waterfall,



Ken and Audrey Huseman, CAPS volunteers, find helping their community a rewarding way to spend part of their retirement.

Volunteers help make city work

Octogenarians Ken and Audrey Huseman perform some of Folsom's most valuable services – and their reward isn't measured in dollars.

As Citizens Assisting Public Safety volunteers, the couple donates some 50 hours a month to the Police Department. They'll check your home when you're on vacation, fingerprint kids, maybe even give you a parking ticket. Every week, Ken Huseman runs paperwork to the District Attorney's office in Sacramento, and the couple have portrayed Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for the department's Santa's Sleigh.

The Husemans are two of more than 1,000 City Hall volunteers who donate their time to help city programs. The jobs the volunteers do are not make-work; many require special skills and all contribute to making Folsom a better place to live.

Besides assisting with public safety, city volunteers have helped build trails and improve parks, plant trees, process and repair library books, plan and staff city events, create brochures and artwork, conduct classes, help kids do homework, lead tours, provide clerical and technical assistance, take blood pressure and much more.

"We appreciate the dedication of our volunteers," says City Manager Kerry Miller. "They are vital in enhancing our residents' high quality of life."

If you'd like more information on volunteering with the city, you can start by leafing through binders of dozens of available positions at the Human Resources Department. No appointment is necessary. You can also contact individual departments through the city's main number, 355-7200.

You may find, as the Husemans have, that volunteering "is one of the most enjoyable things we've ever done."

News Roundup

which pours from a Gold Rush-era flume. The park also has lighted softball, football and soccer fields and a lighted sand volleyball court, picnic areas and tot lots.

The most recent park improvement, finished in summer 2007, was artificial turf on the football field. The new surface increased the amount of time the field can be used.

The community raised more than \$400,000 of the \$1.2 million cost of the turf.

The next and last phase of construction will add basketball and tennis courts and two more parking lots.

Ride the ghost train, if you dare

It's soon to be Halloween, and the ghosts are throwing a party.

If you're brave, you're invited to join them. All you need do is board the "ghost train" at City Lions Park on Stafford Street between 7 and 9 p.m. Oct. 19 through Halloween night.

The destination: A creepy graveyard where 20 or so ghosts are noisily celebrating their favorite holiday.

The ghosts – audio-animatronic figures in the daytime – are the creation of Larry Scholl, an animator who has worked for Walt Disney and other studios. That explains why the ride feels like a Disneyland attraction.

"This is not people in sheets," Scholl says.

Although the lively scene promises to chill



This ghost plays real music, but is he a real ghost?

your bones, Scholl is quick to add that it's never gory or upsetting. And the ending, he promises, will be a surprise – which he's keeping to himself.

This is the fourth year Scholl has built the attraction at City Park. This year, a new train that can slow to a crawl as it passes the exhibit will add to the ride's eerie effect.

Halloween-related activities are planned at the train station during the nights of the event.

Ride tickets are \$8. Large-group discounts are available. For more information, see Scholl's Web site at www.larryscholl.net.

Monday night? It's football

Seniors are invited to watch Monday night football each week on the 52-inch big screen TV at the Senior Center at 48 Natoma St. The center's lounge has comfortable seating and fresh coffee. The gathering starts at 5:30 and is free. For more information, call 355-7285.

Folsom celebrates Arts and Humanities Month in October

The nation celebrates Arts and Humanities Month in October. Here are some of Folsom's events:

- Through Oct. 11 – **Maidu Echoes from the American River.** Mosaics, paintings, drawings by Gayle Anita. Pacific Western Traders, 305 Wool St. 985-3851.

- Through Oct. 12 – **Celebrating Water Media.** California Watercolor Association. The Gallery at 48 Natoma. 355-7285.

- All of October – **Art Exhibit.** Folsom Arts Association. Zinfandel Grille, 705 Gold Lake Drive. Artists reception Oct. 13, 6-9 p.m. 608-9153.

- Oct. 6 – **The Power and the Mystery.** Folsom Lake Symphony Orchestra fall concert. 8 p.m. Folsom High School theater. 932-2129 or www.folsomsymphony.com.

- Oct. 6-Nov. 3 – **The Days of the Dead.** Los Dias De Muertos display of Mexican popular art. Pacific Western Traders, 305 Wool St. 985-3851.

- Oct. 6 – **Art and Travel Through Italy.** Artistic highlights of Italy. Murer House Foundation, 1125 Joe Murer Court. \$3. 985-3250.

- Oct. 7 – **The Limelights.** Folsom Lake Community Concert Association. 3 p.m. Folsom High theater. www.flcca.org or 934-0869.

- Oct. 13 – **Celebration of the Arts.** Local arts organizations present their programs. The Wine Gallery on Sutter Street. Sponsored by Folsom Patrons of the Arts. www.folsompatronsofthearts.org.

- Oct. 13 – **Haiku Reading.** Central Valley Haiku Club. 1 p.m. Gekkeikan Sake Factory, 1136 Sibley St. YCabalona@sylvan.k12.ca.us.

- Oct. 19-Nov. 30 – **Flower Fusion.** Wearable art, water colors, The Gallery at 48 Natoma St., 355-7285.

- Oct. 20 – **Italian Biscotti.** Chef/author Franca Brida Lingren shows how to make perfect biscotti. 10-11 a.m. \$20. Murer House Foundation. 985-3250

- Oct. 20-21 – **Folsom Renaissance Faire.** Travel back to 1569 in Elizabethan England – and maybe even meet the queen. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. City Lions Park. \$12 and \$7. www.folsomfaire.com or 355-7285.

- Oct. 27 – **Verdi's "Otello."** Opera 101 Talk. Sacramento Opera discussion. Murer House Foundation, 1125 Joe Murer Court. \$3. 985-3250.

- Oct. 28 – **Abracadabra, It's Magic!** Comedy magic and illusions for the family. 355-7285.

Many (animals) are offered but few are chosen

A new animal arrived at the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary in September – a blind baby skunk who had the fortuity of getting lost in Zoo Supervisor Jill Giel’s back yard.

Giel saw immediately the tiny mammal’s opaque eyes and knew he could not survive in the wild. The zoo veterinarian de-scented him – a major operation for skunks – and he will be neutered. Then he will join about 90 other animals as a permanent resident of the city’s zoo.

The little skunk hit a streak of good luck. Skunk resident Gardenia died last year, so there’s room at the zoo for this new one.

That isn’t the case for most of the animals the zoo is offered. Although the little zoo is a refuge for animals that cannot survive in the wild, it can accept only a few of well over 100 animals it’s asked to take in every year.

“And that’s just our little tiny facility here,” Giel says. “There are hundreds of thousands of animals who need homes. We can’t keep up with the animals that are out there.”

The requests come from many sources. One of the most common is families that have animals they can’t care for – often their kids’ pet snakes. Snakes are legal to own in California, but exotic animals such as monkeys, bears, tigers, mountain lions, marmosets – all sometimes kept as pets – are not (in limited cases the owners can be licensed).

The zoo does not maintain a habitat for reptiles, so snakes, iguanas, tortoises and the like are always turned down.



Jill Giel shows off the newest zoo resident.

Other animals that aren’t accepted are any that can survive in the wild.

“We don’t take nuisance animals that someone has trapped in their yard,” Giel says. “The animals we have are here because they don’t have any other choice.”

In other cases, the zoo staff looks at space, budget and their ability to care for the new animals. The Folsom Zoo has set high standards for animal habitats, so it won’t bring animals in if it means crowding.

The staff has determined the bear exhibit can comfortably house only five bears, which the zoo has, so it won’t now accept any more. When

the zoo took in two tigers that had been mistreated a couple of years ago, it expanded the tiger exhibit for them.

The zoo does consider animals that have become so dependent on humans for food they can no longer forage safely on their own. That often happens, Giel says, when humans put food outside for their pets, especially at night, a practice she discourages.

This year, the zoo has been able to accept cougar Rio, coyote Maggie and raccoon Crash along with the skunk.

Once animals are accepted, they can expect to have a home for life. They probably couldn’t ask for a better one. The zookeepers feed them an organic diet and make sure their medical and enrichment needs are taken care of.

“All of our animals seem to be happy,” Giel says. “They are relaxed, they eat well, they interact with other animals. We do our best to keep them comfortable.”

If you see animals – dead or alive – whom do you call?

If you’re an early riser, you may notice more wild animals about beginning next month. That’s because your clocks will change to standard time on Nov. 3 – 8 a.m. will become 7 a.m. – but animals don’t have clocks and they’ll be foraging according to their usual cue – the sunrise.

They may be surprised to see humans around at dawn, but they’ll eventually adjust their schedules, too, says Folsom Animal Control Officer Cindy Walden.

If you do see animals, it will most likely be common nocturnal ones –

raccoons, possums, coyotes, skunks, for example. But if you sight larger animals like mountain lions or bobcats, you should notify either state Fish & Game or the U.S. Agriculture Department trapper. The number for Fish & Game is 358-2900; for the trapper, it is 875-6603.

Walden and the city can handle only domestic animals.

Walden does, however, pick up any animals that have been killed. If you see an animal, wild or domestic, along or in the road, call her at 439-2268.

“I pick them up not only so they

don’t get hit again and again,” Walden says, “but also out of respect for them.”

If they are domestic animals, Walden checks for a license or chip. If she can identify the owners, she will notify them.

“Even though it’s a hard call to make, I feel that they deserve closure,” she says.

One way to keep nocturnal animals from making your house their home is not to leave pet food out at night, Walden says. If you do, the animals will start to imprint your yard as their food source.

Special Events

Oct. 6 – **Antiques Evaluation Day.** Experts in a wide variety of specialties will appraise your old treasures. \$8 per item. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sutter Street. 985-2707.

Oct. 6 – **Symphony: “The Power and the Mystery.”** Tchaikovsky, Wagner, Elgar. Cello soloist. Folsom Lake Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. Folsom High School theater. www.folsomsymphony.com.

Oct. 7 – **Limeliter.** Folsom Lake Community Concert Association series. 3 p.m. Folsom High School theater. \$30. 934-0869 or www.flcca.org.

Oct. 13 – **MOWER Workshop.** Learn to compost and grasscycle. Free compost bin or mulching mower rebate. Preregistration, Folsom residency required. 9 a.m. Lew Howard Park. Free. 355-8393.

Oct. 13 – **Bark ‘n’ Splash Bash.** Your dogs’ turn to frolic in the aquatic center pools. Annual event before the pools’ post-season cleaning, sanitizing and inspection. Also: microchips, licenses, vaccinations. 2-5 p.m. Aquatic center. \$10 per dog. 355-8318.

Oct. 18 – **Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War.** Book discussion group. 1-2 p.m. Folsom Public Library. Free. 355-7374.

Oct. 18 – **Mather Airport Noise Community Meeting.** Give input on environmental



The aquatic center pools are due for their end-of-season cleaning and sanitizing anyway, so why not let your dogs have their day first? Bring them to the Bark ‘n’ Splash Bash Oct 13 from 2 to 5 p.m. Doggie admission is \$10; humans get in free. Microchips, licenses are available, too.

impact report for Mather overflights. 6:30-8 p.m. Community Center.

Oct. 20-21 – **Folsom Renaissance Faire.** Venture into 16th-century England. Period characters, vendors, entertainment, food, jousting. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. City Park. \$12 and \$7. 355-7285.

Oct. 26 – **Friday Afternoon at the Movies.** For adults. A 1944 Charles Laughton classic ghost tale. Guess the name or call library for it. 2 p.m. Folsom Library. Free. 355-7374.

Oct. 27 – **Jeepers, Creepers!** Learn about bats, rats, other creatures. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Folsom Zoo. Free with regular admission.

Coming Up

Nov. 2 – **Meet author Jack Hicks.** English/creative writing professor at UC Davis. Founder of school’s Pacific Regional Humanities Center. Senior First Friday. 10 a.m. Folsom Library. Free. 355-7374.

Nov. 3 – **High School Band Fall Festival.** Marching band competition at Folsom High School. www.folsommusic.org.

Nov. 3-Jan. 6 – **Up in Flames.** The 150-year history of the Folsom Fire Department. Folsom History Museum. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m to 4 p.m.. Small fee. 985-2707.

Meetings

City Council meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays, City Hall.

Planning Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Parks and Recreation Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday, City Hall.

Library Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the first Monday, City Hall.

Architectural Review Commission meets 7:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays, City Hall.

Historic District Commission meets 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays, City Hall.

Traffic Safety Committee meets 4 p.m. the fourth Thursday, City Hall.

Murer House Foundation meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday, Murer House classroom.

Redevelopment Advisory Committee meets 4 p.m. the fourth Thursday, City Hall.

Landscaping/Lighting Districts meets 7 p.m. the third Thursday, City Hall.

Arts and Cultural Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday, City Hall.

Utility Commission meets 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday. Location varies.

Report **Mather Airport flight noise** to planenoiseinfo@saccounty.net or call aircraft noise report line at 874-0800.



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Folsom Dam Bridge Project



Three scrapers, each with two engines, push and pull one another at the top of the hill to fill their buckets with dirt. They release the dirt at the bottom of the hill as fill. After the fill is compacted, it is sprayed with water, above. The scrapers move an average of 16,000 cubic yards of dirt each work day.

The hills are coming down

Before the roads to the bridge can be built, the terrain must be made more level

There's more to the new bridge at Folsom Dam than just the bridge – in fact, there's nearly two miles more. The bridge itself accounts for only 1,000 feet of the 10,000-foot project. The rest is the roads.

The approach roads will extend from Folsom-Auburn Road, near Folsom Dam Road, on the west, to East Natoma Street on the east. The alignment will closely follow the familiar Folsom Dam Road route, curving to the south around the dam. The bridge will cross the American River directly below the dam.

Building these roads is complicated. The terrain is sharply hilly and must be evened out, and the ground is embedded with the area's ubiquitous granite. Early work included blasting hillsides to dislodge some of the rock.

Now huge earth-moving equipment is tearing down the hillsides inches at a time. On a Saturday in September, 18 yellow vehicles, under the direction of Kiewit Grading Manager Rick Nickel, scraped, packed and watered the ground. The flow of work was precisely choreographed.

Just scraping up eight inches of dirt at a time requires hundreds of horsepower. Kiewit's scrapers have twin engines – front and back – and they work in teams of three. At the top of the hill, two of the scrapers in turn push and pull a third one as it fills up with dirt. When all three scrapers are loaded, they

break apart and roar down the hill. At the bottom, guided by a grade setter with a clipboard, they spread the dirt to build that terrain. Then they start the climb again.

The highest peak will be lowered by 130 feet.

After the dirt is moved, it must be compacted to make it safe. On that Saturday, two compactors rolled over the terrain to tamp it down. They were followed by two 4,000-gallon water trucks.

Compacting dirt gets rid of voids and tightens the fill to make it safer and longer lasting. The water is added in the precise amount to bind the dirt. Too much creates mud, which won't compact. Too little leaves dust, which also won't compact.

Kiewit continually tests the compaction. To be acceptable, it must register 95 percent compared to a perfect sample.

After the dirt is prepared, the asphalt and paving are laid. For this the road, they will be 19 inches thick.

When the roads are finished, they will exactly meet the bridge.

How much dirt is a million cubic yards?

Envision it this way: If you spread a million cubic yards of dirt across a football field – 100 yards by 50 yards – you'd end up with a skyscraper nearly 2,000 feet tall – taller than any building on Earth.



Shana Avalos surveys the amphitheater at the new ARWEC site. The area is used for school programs and free weekend classes for adults. Some of the boulders for seating were unearthed when Folsom Dam was being built; others are from the current bridge work.

Water education center to reopen at new site

The American River Water Education Center will officially reopen at its new site in late October. The center, for eight years tucked behind the Bureau of Reclamation offices on Folsom Dam Road, has now moved across the road to a more visible and accessible spot. The previous location was in the path of bridge construction.

Though the center has always been a favorite destination for school groups, manager Shana Avalos is hopeful the new site will draw more drop-ins and community organizations.

The city of Folsom moved the center and built the roads and parking lots. You enter from a new intersection on Folsom-Auburn Road or a left turn from Folsom Dam Road, before the security gate. It also is on the bike trail.

Once you're there, you'll find out everything you wanted to know about the American River watershed (technically, the drainage region from the river to the ocean). For example: how Native Americans sustained the

river; the role the river played in the Gold Rush; flooding; how Folsom Dam was built; how the historic powerhouse used the river to create electricity; today's river recreation; why people have harnessed the river.

And you don't just read plaques; all exhibits are hands-on.

If you have an opinion on how water should be distributed, you can test your theory at an exhibit that lets you apportion water among farms, cities and wildlife – with realistic consequences.

What you'll probably find, says Avalos, is "there's no way to win." Her solution? Balance.

The site also features an outdoor amphitheater, a water-efficient garden and picnic areas. The amphitheater is used for school tours during the week and free adult programs on the weekends. The garden demonstrates attractive landscaping with native plants.

After its reopening, the center will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, see www.usbr.gov/mp/arwec or call 989-7150.



The city built a new section of bike trail around the American River Water Education Center. It leads right past the bridge construction site.

The best place to see the bridge

Security measures at Folsom Dam prevent interested onlookers from finding favorite spots along the project to monitor the progress of bridge construction. There is one public spot that's excellent for viewing, however: the bike trail.

The trail from Beals Point passes close by the construction area, and cyclists – or skaters or pedestrians – are free to stop and watch.

For construction viewing, you can access the trail at Beals Point or from the west side of Folsom Dam Road, where there's a small parking lot. The full trail extends more than 30 miles from Beals Point to Discovery Park on the Sacramento River.

When the bridge is open, you'll be able for the first time to ride or walk across that part of the river. The bridge will have two bike lanes – one on the roadway and the other separated by a barrier.

The bike trail will remain open during construction. When the bridge is built, the trail will go under it.