



### West-Half Widening

The west-half widening portion of the project expanded each lane by one foot and the shoulders by more than six feet. Prior to the widening, if a vehicle broke down, there was little room for it to pull over, causing long backups and frustrated drivers. Extra lane widths increase safety and keep traffic moving.

The west half of the bridge now has 12-foot wide lanes and 8-foot shoulders. In order to complete the widening for the west-half of the bridge, crews formed deck sections alongside the existing roadway and poured concrete for the new deck. Then they poured a concrete traffic barrier, installed railings and widened the west half steel draw span. Finally, crews installed new traffic and barrier gates for the draw span opening.

When the new east-half is installed, both sides of the bridge will be the same width, including wider transition spans, and allow for possible expansion of the bridge to four lanes in the future without closing the bridge to traffic.

The north side widening was completed in the summer of 2005. The south side widening was completed in the summer of 2004.



*A crane places a girder for widening the west half. June 2004*



*Crews place concrete for new west-half deck section. July 2005*