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For about six months now, orange detour signs have sent you AROUND the Market Street Bridge..

Construction crews are working on one of Chattanooga's best known landmarks. Construction work on the bridge is supposed to wrap-up by September of 2007, but will crews make that deadline? Many North Shore business owners want to know. They don't want their customers taking a permanent detour from their stores.

It's a 13 million dollar project to make the historic Market Street Bridge new again. Construction workers are literally taking the bridge apart ... piece by piece.

T-DOT officials meet every two weeks with project leaders to help ensure construction stays on schedule. Eight crews, totalling about 50 workers are on the job. They're tearing down the old parts of the bridge and replacing them with new. It is a tedious makeover, but in the end... the bridge will have its same, historic look. Even the lighting will look old.

Employees at Frankie and Julian's on Frazier Avenue say sales aren't quite as brisk as they used to be, but that could be because the busy holiday season is over.

And over at The Bone Appetit Bakery, four-legged customers are finding their way around the detour just fine... it's the out-of town folks store owners are worried about.

Most store owners say they're trying to remain positive about the construction.

They're hoping once the bridge is done, business will really pick up.

T-DOT says it looks like the bridge will be completed by its September 2007 deadline.

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