



TO: Residents and Businesses in the Cochran Road Area

DATE: March 14, 2017

Notification of Cochran Road Bridge Closing

As you may know, the Cochran Road bridge over Indian Creek has been scheduled for replacement in 2017 and is now closed. The Butler County Engineer's Office had originally planned to start construction next week; however, we were forced to close the bridge as an emergency measure on Monday, March 13 after utility crews accidentally damaged the protective guardrail. A decision was then made to begin the bridge replacement project immediately to avoid any down time. Our contractor was ready to start and the project is now officially under way despite this week's ongoing wintry conditions.

We realize this caught many of you off guard and we apologize for the unannounced disruption. It is our normal policy to notify local residents and businesses of an upcoming road closure at least one week in advance via letters such as this, posting signs at the project site, and news releases to the media and on our web site. The circumstances with this project were unusual and out of the ordinary. Again, we're sorry for the inconvenience.

The Project

This project is necessary to replace an aging and deteriorating bridge with a new, safer structure. The old bridge was a steel beam bridge with concrete deck built in 1962. The Engineer's Office plans to replace it with a new three-span cast-in-place concrete slab structure.

A construction contract for the project has been awarded to Eagle Bridge Company of Sidney, Ohio which submitted a low bid of \$1,413,880. Funding consists of Federal grant money and local BCEO matching funds. All work is scheduled for completion by mid-July, weather permitting.

Detour and Maintenance of Traffic

During this closure, local access will be maintained for residents and businesses from the south (Ohio 129) side of the bridge, Motorists will not be permitted to pass through the construction zone and detours will be posted for all thru traffic. Northbound Cochran Road traffic will detour west on Ohio 129, north on Garner Road, and east on Reily Millville Road. Southbound traffic will reverse this route.

Emergency personnel, school bus transportation officials, the post office, and the media have been notified of this upcoming closure. The information is also posted on our web site at www.bceo.org/roadclosings.

Who to Contact

While the BCEO makes every effort to keep residents and businesses in a project area informed, we strongly encourage you to check the Road Closings page on our web site as the best source for possible date and status changes concerning this closing. If you have specific questions about the project, please contact Melissa Taylor in the Construction Department at the Engineer's Office by phone or email: 513-785-4115 or TaylorM@bceo.org.

Project Safety

The BCEO would like to emphasize the importance of proper safety measures during actual construction. Every precaution will be taken to make the construction site as safe as possible. However, we do ask that you and your family be aware of the potential hazards associated with work areas such as this. Please advise everyone to keep out of the construction site as much as possible to reduce the risk of accidents. Your assistance would also be appreciated in reporting any instances of vandalism, including the

removal of lights, signs, or barricades. Such acts of vandalism can seriously jeopardize the safety of motorists and pedestrians in the construction area. Please contact our Office or the Butler County Sheriff at 513-785-1300 or 513-424-0469 to report any suspected vandalism.

We realize that construction can create some inconveniences and annoyances, but everything possible will be done to keep these to a minimum during this project. Thanks again for your patience.

GREG WILKENS, P.E., P.S.
BUTLER COUNTY ENGINEER