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Contact: Kylie Dontje, Communications Coordinator
810-767-4920 ext. 232
GCRC Website: *www.gcrc.org*

Update on Elms Rd. Bridge project

Flushing Twp., Mich. ---

The Elms Rd. Bridge (over the Flint River) rehabilitation project will continue into the 2027 construction season as the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) found additional deterioration in the beams. The original plan included repairing portions of the bridge deck and replacing the joints. Instead, GCRC has decided, in the interest of safety and with approval and financial support from the Michigan Department of Transportation, to change the scope of the project to replace all of the bridge's beams and deck. This means that the bridge will stay closed until replacement can be completed.

Since deciding to change the scope of the project, the design process is already underway. The current contractor will begin demolition as soon as next week. This will allow work to continue throughout the winter months. Upon completion of the new plans, the project can be bid out in late winter, and a new contractor will begin work as soon as possible in the construction season of 2027. A new completion date has not yet been established.

Reopening this bridge is a top priority for the Genesee County Road Commission. We know the extended closure is a hardship for people who rely on this route. The replacement is expected to provide approximately 50 years of additional service, compared to an estimated 10 years under the original rehabilitation plan which would require more extensive repairs and a longer closure in 10

years. This decision prioritizes public safety while ensuring taxpayer dollars are invested in a long-term solution.

Additional updates will be provided as the project progresses and a more definitive construction and reopening schedule becomes available.

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Please slow down in work zones, for your family and ours.