

February 28, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Public Forum March 1 Regarding Kearney Street Bridge

Engineers from the City of Springfield's Department of Public Works will hold a public forum Tuesday about the City's plan to build a new pedestrian bridge spanning Kearney Street near Ed V. Williams Elementary School.

The meeting will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at the Williams Elementary School cafeteria, 2205 W. Kearney St. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss plans for the proposed bridge and gather input from the public on the project.

The new bridge will replace the bridge that was removed from this location in November 2010 after the bridge deck shifted. A subsequent engineering analysis revealed that long-term exposure to moisture had weakened a wooden beam supporting the 30-year-old bridge. The bridge's design prevented engineers from fully viewing and inspecting the structure while the bridge was in place.

The new bridge is likely to be in place by this fall, though bids for construction have not yet been taken. The bridge will be compliant with ADA requirements, and several new parking spaces for parents to pick up students are proposed for Roosevelt Avenue on the south side of the bridge.

For more information, contact: Stacy Bergman, Public Works – Engineering, (417) 864-1969.



Department of Public Works

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