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Auglaize County Seeking Comments

The Auglaize County Engineer's office, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation, is currently planning to renovate the bridge on Hamilton Street over the Auglaize River in Wapakoneta. The existing bridge was built in 1968, is located in an urban area and has an average daily traffic count of approximately 4,118 vehicles per day with additional pedestrian traffic. The superstructure will be replaced with a set of new composite prestressed box beams, and the bridge abutments and pier seats will be repaired in order to accommodate the new superstructure. All work on the project will be done by contract.

Hamilton Street will be closed to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic between Auglaize Street and Kelley Drive for a maximum of 180 days, but access to residential driveways will be maintained. A traffic detour will be posted, and the general public is encouraged to find alternate routes during the construction period. A pedestrian traffic detour will also be posted during the closure. The project at the present time is scheduled to be sold in February of 2028 and completed by November 15, 2028.

The project is located within the regulated floodplain of the Auglaize River and is being designed to have minimal impact on the floodplain and result in no rise in local flood levels. A Floodplain Statement of Findings can be found on the Auglaize County Engineers website <https://www2.auglaizecounty.org/elected-officials/engineer/road-bridge-projects>.

Harmon Park, located at the Northeast corner of the bridge will be minimally affected during construction and access will be maintained from the North side of the Auglaize River.

No known historical sites exist within the project area, and local economics will benefit from the improvement as this is a major urban river crossing for both commercial industries and the general public. School buses will be required to use alternate routes during the closure, but this should have minimal impact on the local school system. There should be little to no effect on the current air quality, and water quality will be protected by current EPA requirements.

Any area resident wishing to express any concerns or comments regarding this project will have 30 days from date of publishing to comment on the project. Please contact Andrew Baumer, Auglaize County Engineer at 419-739-6520 or abaumer@auglaizecounty.org.