

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Bridge Street bridge will be closed for one year while new crossing is built over Salters Creek

Aug. 1, 2016 - The downtown Bridge Street bridge over Salters Creek will be closed for one year starting Thursday, Aug. 4 while it is being replaced. Motorists and pedestrians will have to use alternate routes.

Studies have shown that the current bridge, which was rehabbed in 1995, is now structurally deficient and cannot hold some fire and emergency vehicles. The process for replacing the bridge, at a cost of about \$4.5 million - including \$3 million in federal and state money - began some 20 years ago. The bridge replacement has been in the city's 5-year capital plan since 2007.

The new bridge will include a pedestrian walkway with an overlook. Because of space considerations, it will have about the same overall "footprint" as the current bridge. The city has already spent about \$700,000 on the design of the new bridge and relocating utilities. Another \$400,000 in local funding is committed to the project.

The new bridge will be built by Precon Marine Inc., a diversified marine contractor in Hampton Roads.

Detour signs will be installed to help motorists avoid the closed bridge and find other routes through the area.

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