



***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Update on the West Washington Street Bridge project**

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Department of Public Works (Indy DPW) will shift its focus to reconstruct the West Washington Street Bridge over Little Eagle Creek, instead of its initial plans to rehabilitate the historic bridge.

After a comprehensive inspection of the bridge, Indy DPW discovered that over 70% of the arch and spandrel walls, which are integral to the bridge's stability, are severely deteriorated. To ensure the completed bridge is safe for traffic, these discoveries require a complete demolition and replacement. Demolition is expected to begin as soon as next week.

Despite these unforeseen circumstances, Indy DPW aims to open the bridge to traffic in the fall of 2025 with all elements finalized by the end of 2025.

The new construction plan will cost approximately \$5 million to fully reconstruct the bridge to match the historical elements. This cost includes:

- New foundations
- A precast concrete arch
- Rebuilt pavement
- New sidewalks
- New railings

"Indy DPW understands the disruptive nature of construction," said interim Indy DPW Director Sam Beres. "However, we are confident that the full reconstruction is in the best interest of public safety. Additionally, we will be working with contractors to accelerate work wherever possible."

Indy DPW continues to prioritize the structural integrity of the Washington Street bridge to ensure a long-lasting, secure bridge for all Indianapolis residents. While under construction, residents should avoid the construction area and adhere to the posted detour routes.

Indy DPW continues coordinating with State Historic Preservation Office, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to finalize necessary permit amendments.

The public's continued patience is greatly appreciated during this time. For more information, please visit: [www.indy.gov/dpwprojects](http://www.indy.gov/dpwprojects).

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