

May 24, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Bennett Street closure begins June 3

Beginning Monday, June 3, 2013, Bennett Street between Campbell Avenue and Jefferson Avenue will be closed to traffic to replace the bridge, improve the channel and realign the new road. This closure will last several months due to the large amount of work required. This is the second phase of the Fassnight Creek Improvements Project.

The project is funded by stormwater bonds approved by voters in 2001 and 2004 paid for by the Level Property Tax. Additional funding was provided by the Springfield-Greene County Parks Sales Tax approved by voters in 2006. That tax had a sunset in June 2012.

Background

Phase two consists of stormwater improvements, including raised streets and new bridges at Bennett Street and Jefferson Avenue to safely pass the 100-year flood; stream bank stabilization to reduce erosion and protect adjacent properties; a detention basin to improve water quality; and floodplain improvements to reduce flood damages to nearby properties.

The \$3.8 million project cost includes a projected \$2.5 million for construction and an additional \$1.3 million for design costs and purchase of 15 properties in the floodplain. All properties were acquired voluntarily with no use of eminent domain.

The project continues the successful work of phase one, which was completed last year and included reconstructed bridges where Grant and Campbell cross Fassnight Creek to provide water quality benefits while maintaining the historical appearance of Fassnight Park. The extension of the Fassnight Greenway Trail through the park provides increased opportunity to enjoy the creek. Phase two will further the trail to the east side of Jefferson Avenue, ultimately connecting to Phelps Grove Park with a future phase.

For more information about the road closure, contact: Dave Shalla at 417-864-1945.