



# LICKING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Rick Black  
Timothy E. Bubb  
Duane H. Flowers

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Licking County Engineer, Jared Knerr (740-670-5292)

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### **Newark, Ohio – Staddens Bridge Road Bridge Project to Begin Next Week**

Construction is scheduled to begin on February 11<sup>th</sup> to demolish the damaged bridge at Staddens Bridge Road in eastern Licking County and start the construction of the new replacement bridge. According to Licking County Engineer Jared Knerr, the first element of the project will be the demolition of the damaged 43-year old span, as well as removing both current and old pilings, from the previous bridge, from the Licking River channel.

Engineer Knerr and the Licking County Commissioners confirm the design and planning is complete, and the contractor for the \$1.9-million project will be Armstrong Steel Erectors of Newark. Officials are aware the flood damage to and closure of the span continues to be a major inconvenience to residents and businesses in the region.

According to the County Engineer and the contractor, the timetable for the replacement project calls for completion in September 2019 with weather and conditions permitting. The expected length of life for this new 250-foot bridge is 50 to 75-years, as it will benefit from new and deeper piers, and galvanized steel bridge elements.

In February, a causeway will be constructed in the river channel as a part of the pier removal and bridge demolition. The County cautions recreational boaters to obey posted warnings in that ‘work zone’ area of the Licking River.

Financing for this nearly \$2-million project was arranged between the Engineer and the Commissioners with a combination of existing and borrowed funds.

Construction updates are provided on the County website at [www.lcounty.com/depts/engineer](http://www.lcounty.com/depts/engineer)