



Springfield Park District

www.springfieldparks.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPRINGFIELD PARK DISTRICT ANNOUNCES RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGES AND SPILLWAY IN WASHINGTON PARK

[Springfield, IL] – The Springfield Park District will begin reconstruction of the two bridges and spillway of the Jacksonville Branch lagoon in Washington Park on June 23, 2016.

This project includes channel excavation of the west lagoon, fabrication and installation of new precast concrete bridges and reconstruction of the spillway dam. During construction, the Ring Road will be closed at each structure. This project is schedule to be completed this fall.

The Springfield Park District secured a grant from the Federal Highway Administration to fund 85% of the total project costs which are estimated at \$1.3 Million. Executive Director Derek Harms - “Replacement of these nearly 100 year old bridges is well overdue. We are excited to get started on this long term solution and apologize in advance for any temporary inconveniences this may cause.

The Springfield Park District has taken several steps that will help minimize the impact on the public during the construction project.

1. The existing levee between the East and West lagoon will be paved creating a new multi-use path system which will allow for uninterrupted pedestrian and bicycle traffic flow.
2. Utilizing precast construction technology on the bridges will allow the Park District to condense the overall construction timeline which will greatly reduce the length of time the bridges will be closed to the public.
3. The direction of vehicular traffic on Feldkamp Avenue will be temporarily switched to allow for one-way traffic exiting the Park onto Fayette Avenue. After construction is complete, Feldkamp Avenue will return to a one way street entering the Park.
4. The Rose Garden Parking Lot will remain open and accessible via Fayette Avenue.

The attached map indicates the areas of construction, alternative routes and available parking.

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Users of Washington Park should be cautious of construction vehicles and be aware of open excavations during the various construction activities.

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