



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
TRANSPORTATION CABINET
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge Replacement on KY 610 Jonancy Nears Completion

Transportation Cabinet set to reopen bridge tomorrow in Pike County destroyed during July floods

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 14, 2023) – Residents of Jonancy and the surrounding area will soon be driving on a new permanent bridge along Kentucky Route 610 to replace the former structure destroyed by the July 2022 floods.

The bridge will open to traffic on Wednesday, March 15. Motorists have had a lengthy detour since late July when much of the old bridge's structural support was washed out. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 12 crews tore down what remained of the structure last fall. The state-owned bridge is one of 20 bridges replaced in the seven-county district in eastern Kentucky.

"Bridges serve as vital connections linking families and communities and their loss can cause major disruptions and add to hardships in the aftermath of natural disaster events," Gov. Beshear said. "The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and its contractor partners have worked tirelessly to restore those broken connections, and I'm thrilled for residents to have this bridge back in operation."

"Due to the damage the bridge sustained, we determined a need for replacement," Chief District Engineer Mary Westfall-Holbrook said. "We were able to accelerate the design and get a new bridge contracted for construction sooner by staying within the original footprint of the old bridge and avoiding the need for more right of way."

M&M Construction was awarded the contract while KYTC oversaw the \$1.6 million project.

A new, more efficiently designed bridge replaces the previous structure, which was built in 1927. The previous design had three center support beams that often trapped debris, impeding water flow. The new design utilizes a single center support beam with sturdier piers and a 5-inch deck on the 115-foot long structure.

Motorists should continue to use caution and reduce speeds in the area until asphalt operations are completed this spring.

“District 12 sustained extensive damage to our infrastructure across all our flood-stricken counties,” Westfall-Holbrook said. “The road to rebuilding may seem long, but we’re in it for the long haul, and opening this new bridge is an encouraging sign of progress.”

A total of 100 state and county bridges sustained flood damage requiring repair or replacement.

Follow KYTC District 12 on Facebook and Twitter to receive up-to-date information on bridges and overall flood recovery efforts.

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