

George County Board of Supervisors Ken Flanagan, Communications Director Office: 601-247-2104

GC starts demo and construction of Ernest Pipkins Bridge

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Construction for the new Ernest Pipkins Bridge begins Monday, March 24 with the demolition of the old bridge in George County. The current 2.5 story wooden bridge spans over the Canadian National railroad track and connects Hwy. 198W to Hwy. 98.

"This bridge project has been a long time coming," Supervisor Larry Havard, Beat 4 explains. "This is going to be a major construction project which will serve the County for years to come. This new bridge will reopen and reconnect both sides of Ernest Pipkins Road for residents and drivers."



The County is working closely with the Bexley Utilities and the Canadian National (CN) Railroad during both the demolition and construction of the Ernest Pipkins Bridge. A large waterline is directly connected to the bridge and the railroad track is in daily operations. Crews are coordinating with both the CN and the utility system to minimize track delays and track safety.

Demolition is anticipated to take two weeks to complete. Construction of the new bridge is expected to take six months, weather permitting. The new two lane bridge will be approximately 30 feet tall and 160 feet long with concrete decking and concrete spans. Total cost for the project is \$900,000 with funding from the County and the State.

For updates on the Ernest Pipkins Bridge throughout the construction process, visit the County's new website at <u>www.georgecountyms.com</u>.

Photo Cutline:

Crews will begin the demolition and construction of Ernest Pipkins Bridge in George County on March 24. The new \$900,000 bridge will be completed in Fall 2014.