



George County Board of Supervisors
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MDOT to close Hwy. 198 East Bridge for replacement on Monday, Oct 19

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The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be closing the Hwy. 198 East Bridge on Monday, Oct. 19. The bridge, which connects the Multi-Mart and Rocky Creek communities, will be closed in order to start a major bridge replacement project. The bridge will be closed until summer 2016 as MDOT contractors demolish, remove, and replace the current bridge.

MDOT will detour east and west bound traffic to U.S. Highway 98 by using Old Highway 63. Local residents will still have access to their homes with Old Mobile Highway as a detour.

The Hwy. 198 Bridge Project will widen the bridge's shoulders, reduce the steep roadway decline approaching the bridge, and increase the bridge's overall load weight capacity.

Supervisor Fred Croom, District 1, explains there is no good time for a closure of this length but this bridge project will benefit the area for years to come.

"I see this bridge replacement first as a road safety improvement project for our residents. The bridge will be smoother and wider for our local drivers," Croom said. "In addition, the new bridge will also benefit our economic development. In fact, weight capacity and width are among the biggest items industrial and commercial developers consider in road infrastructure. And Highway 198 is a major business corridor for George County"

MDOT will have a Project Manager in George County for the duration of the project. Heavy construction equipment will begin moving into place early next week. Bridge closure signage is expected to go up early Monday morning.

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