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Thursday, August 7, 2014

To: Area Residents

Re: City of Sarnia - Important Community Notice - Cull Drain Bridge

On Friday August 1, 2014 an Engineer's inspection report for the Old Lakeshore Road Bridge, also known as the Cull Drain Bridge, was received by City staff. This inspection report notes that urgent action is required and recommends that the bridge be removed immediately as partial or total collapse may occur even as a result of high winds. This bridge has been closed to vehicle traffic for decades and has been used for pedestrian traffic in recent years. It was closed to pedestrians in 2012.

It is located at the mouth of the Perch Creek outlet on the Shore of Lake Huron. The bridge is situated at the east end of Old Lakeshore Road in the Rainbow Cove Sub Division just east of Telfer Road. The bridge is located west of the Suncor Recreation Center and Jamieson Lane (see map on back of page).

At a Special Meeting of Council held today on this matter, the following resolution was passed:

That Sarnia City Council direct staff to immediately take steps to remove the Cull Drain Bridge in the interest of public safety, with the costs of this removal to be funded from the Rehabilitation of Various Structures (Bridges and Culverts) capital funding;

And that staff are directed to report back to Council as soon as possible on demolition costs which would include various options.

Staff are proceeding to secure contractor estimates and meet permitting requirements in order to remove the bridge as soon as possible following Council's consideration.

The public is advised to avoid the bridge from land or water. Measures have been taken to extend the fencing in an effort to prevent people from going onto or under the bridge. Additional signage has been added warning of potential bridge collapse. Family members are urged to discuss with their children the importance of avoiding the bridge.

For additional information, please contact Andre Morin, City Engineer at 519-332-0330 x3279.

We thank you for helping us ensure public safety in this area.

Margaret Misek-Evans City Manager

