



# Howard County Government News Release

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## Creation of a New Detour in Centennial Park

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Recreation & Parks will be installing a shoulder detour for safe pedestrian travel along Centennial Lane due to the closure of the west-area pedestrian bridge. The detour will be in place until the new pedestrian bridge is installed. The anticipated completion of the new replacement bridge is May 1, 2020.

A recent bridge inspection resulted in the closure of the Centennial Park West pedestrian bridge. The existing bridge is 24 years old and has been rusting from the inside out in several areas. Engineered bridge inspections have been performed along with a sonogram to determine the steel thicknesses over the last year. It is cheaper to replace the bridge than to perform an engineered bridge repair. The new, galvanized steel, epoxy-coated pedestrian bridge is being engineered as manufacturers cannot produce a fiberglass structure that will span the existing concrete abutments.

Bridge closure and detour signs have been posted at each of the park access paths. The shoulder detour should be in place for pedestrians within the next two weeks.

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