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Repaired Myakka Bridge reopens ahead of schedule

Myakka Bridge reopened today, Dec. 20, – almost a week ahead of schedule – after major structural repairs were completed. The 56-year-old bridge was closed to traffic on the evening of Nov. 19 for emergency repairs. A final inspection today deemed the bridge was safe to reopen to traffic.

For several days, there will be intermittent lane closures on the bridge during the day, with one-way traffic controlled by flagmen, while the contractor demobilizes at the site.

The two-lane bridge over the Myakka River is located east of Interstate 75, about 2.1 miles south of Fruitville Road on Myakka Road.

The need for structural repairs was identified during the Nov. 18 biennial inspection by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), which found that the bridge deck and beams had shifted on the bridge supports since the last inspection two years ago.

For the safety of the public, Sarasota County Mobility officials conducted an inspection the following morning and immediately took steps to close the bridge to traffic while repairs were under way.

Construction started Dec. 11, with reopening of the bridge expected by Christmas, Dec. 25. However, construction was expedited and repairs were completed today. The cost of design, permitting and construction was about \$260,000.

Kisinger Campo & Associates Corp. provided engineering services. Cone & Graham Inc. was the construction firm.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

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