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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County's Kunkle Bridge to Reopen Friday Afternoon

Carlisle, PA – Cumberland County today announced that Kunkle Bridge on Petersburg Road in South Middleton Township will open to vehicular traffic on Friday, June 4 at 3 p.m. The 117-year-old single land bridge closed in November of 2019 for structural repairs due to ongoing deterioration especially from overweight vehicles that traversed the bridge.

Kunkle Bridge provides north-south mobility in South Middleton Township by carrying Petersburg Road over the Yellow Breeches Creek, and is used by nearly 700 vehicles per day. The new concrete bridge is 102 feet in length, and includes two-full width lanes with 2-foot shoulders.

The total allocation for the project is more than \$2 million, with approximately 90% funded by the state, and 10% from the county. Lobar Site Development of Dillsburg is the construction contractor, and Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, is the county's bridge engineer and designer of this project.

The replacement project is part of Cumberland County's Bridge Capital Improvement Plan that includes over \$40 million worth of replacement or repairs on the county's stock of 28 bridges. The primary funding source is the \$5 per vehicle registration fee that the county approved in 2015.

These fees generate approximately \$1.1 million a year and allow the county to address critical bridge needs without increasing property taxes. The funds generated from the potential vehicle registration fee cannot be used for the County General Fund and are designated for roadways and bridges.

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