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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **July 5, 2018**

New Walking Bridge to Be Constructed Over Creek Near Wheeling Jesuit University

Wheeling city leaders and Wheeling Jesuit University announced plans today for a new walking bridge that spans Big Wheeling Creek and connects the Lennox and Pleasanton neighborhoods. The bridge will be constructed thanks to an anonymous donation from a local foundation to Wheeling Jesuit University.

The "footbridge" as it is commonly called, closed in December 2017 after engineers determined the structure was no longer safe for pedestrians to use.

"The footbridge is an important part of the walkability of our neighborhood. Families coming to Pleasanton playground, neighbors and WJU students walking to nearby businesses will truly appreciate having access to this linkage," said Mark Phillips, Chief of Staff at Wheeling Jesuit University.

Wheeling City Manager Robert Herron added, "We appreciate the partnership with Wheeling Jesuit University and very much thank the donor. The footbridge has been a fixture in this neighborhood for more than 60 years. We are looking forward to the completion of this project."

The new aluminum bridge will be constructed before the end of 2018. Currently, plans are being discussed on removing the current structure over the waterway.

A formal demolition and construction timeline has not yet been set.

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