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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of New Haven Announces Grand Avenue Bridge Closure

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Today New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker and City officials announced the formal closing of the Grand Avenue Bridge starting Monday, April 13, for significant construction improvements. The bridge is a vital traffic artery in New Haven that connects the Fair Haven neighborhood to the Fair Haven Heights neighborhood. This long-awaited closure starts on Monday and will last for an estimated 610 days for significant structural improvements to the bridge. The City of New Haven has made it abundantly clear to the contractor that they must follow all New Haven health officials' guidelines and CDC protocols during this pandemic to reduce exposure to their workers and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The head of the City's Engineering Department, Giovanni Zinn, announced his excitement to finally get this plan moving, "We appreciate everyone's cooperation during this vital infrastructure project. The improvement will rehabilitate many original components from 1898 and prepares the bridge for future conditions through a more resilient design. Even though traffic is down due to the impact of the coronavirus, we ask for everyone's patience as the detour traffic pattern establishes itself. Thank you to everyone who participated in our ranked-choice voting selection process for the new color. We are excited to reopen the bridge in 610 days—in early 2022—with its new green look!" he exclaimed.

"Thank you so much to all our New Haven residents for your cooperation with this long-awaited infrastructure project, and also your cooperation in this unprecedented pandemic," stated Mayor Justin Elicker. "I want to reiterate that the City has made it very clear that the contractor must follow our guidance amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. They have agreed that they will cooperate with these health and safety guidelines throughout the construction process. The City will continue to provide updates on the status of this project, as it poses a major impact on those that rely on this bridge for daily travel, and the businesses that are impacted by it as well. I, too, am excited about the new color, but more pleased to

see New Haven taking charge by using ranked-choice voting in a meaningful way to engage residents. I hope all our residents are staying home and staying safe,” the Mayor concluded.

The City of New Haven live-streamed the ranked-choice voting tally on Mayor Elicker’s YouTube channel on April 3rd, which can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/GrandAveBridgeTally>

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