

FUTURE REPLACEMENT COST

Using a planning assumption of **4% annual construction-cost escalation**, a \$250,000–\$450,000 replacement in today's dollars could cost approximately **\$281,000–\$506,000 by 2029**. A \$350,000 project today would increase to approximately **\$394,000**.

Repairing the railing now and replacing a \$350,000 bridge three years later would therefore result in approximately **\$419,000 in combined nominal expenditures**.

PUBLIC & NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACT

The current closure provides the City an opportunity to determine the **actual impact of permanently losing this connection before making an irreversible decision**.

Public input should focus on who uses the bridge, frequency of use, destinations reached through the crossing, additional walking distance caused by closure, and whether the bridge is particularly important to children, older residents, pedestrians without vehicles, or nearby residents.

Previous local active-transportation planning identified the **E. Chestnut Street/Center Run crossing for a pedestrian bridge upgrade**, supporting the conclusion that the connection has previously been considered valuable. However, prior planning should be balanced against current utilization, neighborhood needs, condition, and cost.

DECISION FRAMEWORK

Repair and reopen if structural evaluation demonstrates approximately **10 or more years of useful life** and public input establishes continued neighborhood value. At \$25,000, preserving a useful crossing for another decade would represent approximately \$2,500 per year of additional service.

Consider removal if the bridge has **less than 5 years of useful life**, utilization is demonstrably low, reasonable alternate pedestrian routes exist, and the current closure has not created a significant neighborhood hardship.

Consider replacement if public input establishes that the crossing provides an important pedestrian connection but structural evaluation indicates the existing bridge has reached or is approaching the end of its useful life. Outside transportation, accessibility, or active-transportation funding should be investigated before committing substantial local funds.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION

Maintain the current closure while public input is received and Council considers the alternatives. Do not authorize the approximately \$25,000 railing repair until the City can reasonably determine the remaining useful life of the underlying bridge.

The fundamental question is whether **\$25,000 purchases meaningful additional service life**. If the bridge can safely serve the neighborhood for another decade or more, repair is a reasonable investment. If

substantial rehabilitation or replacement will be necessary within only a few years—and the current closure demonstrates limited community impact—**removal may provide substantially better long-term value than continuing to invest in a lightly used, aging structure.**

Conversely, if public input demonstrates that the bridge provides an important neighborhood connection, the City should consider **replacement rather than a succession of short-term repairs** and pursue outside funding to reduce the local cost.

DECISION MATRIX

Decision	Cost	Time	Impact
1. Repair	Low	Short	Low
2. Replace	High	Long	High
3. Remove	Low	Short	Low
4. Repair	Low	Short	Low
5. Replace	High	Long	High
6. Remove	Low	Short	Low
7. Repair	Low	Short	Low
8. Replace	High	Long	High
9. Remove	Low	Short	Low
10. Repair	Low	Short	Low
11. Replace	High	Long	High
12. Remove	Low	Short	Low
13. Repair	Low	Short	Low
14. Replace	High	Long	High
15. Remove	Low	Short	Low
16. Repair	Low	Short	Low
17. Replace	High	Long	High
18. Remove	Low	Short	Low
19. Repair	Low	Short	Low
20. Replace	High	Long	High
21. Remove	Low	Short	Low
22. Repair	Low	Short	Low
23. Replace	High	Long	High
24. Remove	Low	Short	Low
25. Repair	Low	Short	Low
26. Replace	High	Long	High
27. Remove	Low	Short	Low
28. Repair	Low	Short	Low
29. Replace	High	Long	High
30. Remove	Low	Short	Low
31. Repair	Low	Short	Low
32. Replace	High	Long	High
33. Remove	Low	Short	Low
34. Repair	Low	Short	Low
35. Replace	High	Long	High
36. Remove	Low	Short	Low
37. Repair	Low	Short	Low
38. Replace	High	Long	High
39. Remove	Low	Short	Low
40. Repair	Low	Short	Low
41. Replace	High	Long	High
42. Remove	Low	Short	Low
43. Repair	Low	Short	Low
44. Replace	High	Long	High
45. Remove	Low	Short	Low
46. Repair	Low	Short	Low
47. Replace	High	Long	High
48. Remove	Low	Short	Low
49. Repair	Low	Short	Low
50. Replace	High	Long	High
51. Remove	Low	Short	Low
52. Repair	Low	Short	Low
53. Replace	High	Long	High
54. Remove	Low	Short	Low
55. Repair	Low	Short	Low
56. Replace	High	Long	High
57. Remove	Low	Short	Low
58. Repair	Low	Short	Low
59. Replace	High	Long	High
60. Remove	Low	Short	Low
61. Repair	Low	Short	Low
62. Replace	High	Long	High
63. Remove	Low	Short	Low
64. Repair	Low	Short	Low
65. Replace	High	Long	High
66. Remove	Low	Short	Low
67. Repair	Low	Short	Low
68. Replace	High	Long	High
69. Remove	Low	Short	Low
70. Repair	Low	Short	Low
71. Replace	High	Long	High
72. Remove	Low	Short	Low
73. Repair	Low	Short	Low
74. Replace	High	Long	High
75. Remove	Low	Short	Low
76. Repair	Low	Short	Low
77. Replace	High	Long	High
78. Remove	Low	Short	Low
79. Repair	Low	Short	Low
80. Replace	High	Long	High
81. Remove	Low	Short	Low
82. Repair	Low	Short	Low
83. Replace	High	Long	High
84. Remove	Low	Short	Low
85. Repair	Low	Short	Low
86. Replace	High	Long	High
87. Remove	Low	Short	Low
88. Repair	Low	Short	Low
89. Replace	High	Long	High
90. Remove	Low	Short	Low
91. Repair	Low	Short	Low
92. Replace	High	Long	High
93. Remove	Low	Short	Low
94. Repair	Low	Short	Low
95. Replace	High	Long	High
96. Remove	Low	Short	Low
97. Repair	Low	Short	Low
98. Replace	High	Long	High
99. Remove	Low	Short	Low
100. Repair	Low	Short	Low
101. Replace	High	Long	High
102. Remove	Low	Short	Low
103. Repair	Low	Short	Low
104. Replace	High	Long	High
105. Remove	Low	Short	Low
106. Repair	Low	Short	Low
107. Replace	High	Long	High
108. Remove	Low	Short	Low
109. Repair	Low	Short	Low
110. Replace	High	Long	High
111. Remove	Low	Short	Low
112. Repair	Low	Short	Low
113. Replace	High	Long	High
114. Remove	Low	Short	Low
115. Repair	Low	Short	Low
116. Replace	High	Long	High
117. Remove	Low	Short	Low
118. Repair	Low	Short	Low
119. Replace	High	Long	High
120. Remove	Low	Short	Low
121. Repair	Low	Short	Low
122. Replace	High	Long	High
123. Remove	Low	Short	Low
124. Repair	Low	Short	Low
125. Replace	High	Long	High
126. Remove	Low	Short	Low
127. Repair	Low	Short	Low
128. Replace	High	Long	High
129. Remove	Low	Short	Low
130. Repair	Low	Short	Low
131. Replace	High	Long	High
132. Remove	Low	Short	Low
133. Repair	Low	Short	Low
134. Replace	High	Long	High
135. Remove	Low	Short	Low
136. Repair	Low	Short	Low
137. Replace	High	Long	High
138. Remove	Low	Short	Low
139. Repair	Low	Short	Low
140. Replace	High	Long	High
141. Remove	Low	Short	Low
142. Repair	Low	Short	Low
143. Replace	High	Long	High
144. Remove	Low	Short	Low
145. Repair	Low	Short	Low
146. Replace	High	Long	High
147. Remove	Low	Short	Low
148. Repair	Low	Short	Low
149. Replace	High	Long	High
150. Remove	Low	Short	Low
151. Repair	Low	Short	Low
152. Replace	High	Long	High
153. Remove	Low	Short	Low
154. Repair	Low	Short	Low
155. Replace	High	Long	High
156. Remove	Low	Short	Low
157. Repair	Low	Short	Low
158. Replace	High	Long	High
159. Remove	Low	Short	Low
160. Repair	Low	Short	Low
161. Replace	High	Long	High
162. Remove	Low	Short	Low
163. Repair	Low	Short	Low
164. Replace	High	Long	High
165. Remove	Low	Short	Low
166. Repair	Low	Short	Low
167. Replace	High	Long	High
168. Remove	Low	Short	Low
169. Repair	Low	Short	Low
170. Replace	High	Long	High
171. Remove	Low	Short	Low
172. Repair	Low	Short	Low
173. Replace	High	Long	High
174. Remove	Low	Short	Low
175. Repair	Low	Short	Low
176. Replace	High	Long	High
177. Remove	Low	Short	Low
178. Repair	Low	Short	Low
179. Replace	High	Long	High
180. Remove	Low	Short	Low
181. Repair	Low	Short	Low
182. Replace	High	Long	High
183. Remove	Low	Short	Low
184. Repair	Low	Short	Low
185. Replace	High	Long	High
186. Remove	Low	Short	Low
187. Repair	Low	Short	Low
188. Replace	High	Long	High
189. Remove	Low	Short	Low
190. Repair	Low	Short	Low
191. Replace	High	Long	High
192. Remove	Low	Short	Low
193. Repair	Low	Short	Low
194. Replace	High	Long	High
195. Remove	Low	Short	Low
196. Repair	Low	Short	Low
197. Replace	High	Long	High
198. Remove	Low	Short	Low
199. Repair	Low	Short	Low
200. Replace	High	Long	High
201. Remove	Low	Short	Low
202. Repair	Low	Short	Low
203. Replace	High	Long	High
204. Remove	Low	Short	Low
205. Repair	Low	Short	Low
206. Replace	High	Long	High
207. Remove	Low	Short	Low
208. Repair	Low	Short	Low
209. Replace	High	Long	High
210. Remove	Low	Short	Low
211. Repair	Low	Short	Low
212. Replace	High	Long	High
213. Remove	Low	Short	Low
214. Repair	Low	Short	Low
215. Replace	High	Long	High
216. Remove	Low	Short	Low
217. Repair	Low	Short	Low
218. Replace	High	Long	High
219. Remove	Low	Short	Low
220. Repair	Low	Short	Low
221. Replace	High	Long	High
222. Remove	Low	Short	Low
223. Repair	Low	Short	Low
224. Replace	High	Long	High
225. Remove	Low	Short	Low
226. Repair	Low	Short	Low
227. Replace	High	Long	High
228. Remove	Low	Short	Low
229. Repair	Low	Short	Low
230. Replace	High	Long	High
231. Remove	Low	Short	Low
232. Repair	Low	Short	Low
233. Replace	High	Long	High
234. Remove	Low	Short	Low
235. Repair	Low	Short	Low
236. Replace	High	Long	High
237. Remove	Low	Short	Low
238. Repair	Low	Short	Low
239. Replace	High	Long	High
240. Remove	Low	Short	Low
241. Repair	Low	Short	Low
242. Replace	High	Long	High
243. Remove	Low	Short	Low
244. Repair	Low	Short	Low
245. Replace	High	Long	High
246. Remove	Low	Short	Low
247. Repair	Low	Short	Low
248. Replace	High	Long	High
249. Remove	Low	Short	Low
250. Repair	Low	Short	Low
251. Replace	High	Long	High
252. Remove	Low	Short	Low
253. Repair	Low	Short	Low
254. Replace	High	Long	High
255. Remove	Low	Short	Low
256. Repair	Low	Short	Low
257. Replace	High	Long	High
258. Remove	Low	Short	Low
259. Repair	Low	Short	Low
260. Replace	High	Long	High
261. Remove	Low	Short	Low
262. Repair	Low	Short	Low
263. Replace	High	Long	High
264. Remove	Low	Short	Low
265. Repair	Low	Short	Low
266. Replace	High	Long	High
267. Remove	Low	Short	Low
268. Repair	Low	Short	Low
269. Replace	High	Long	High
270. Remove	Low	Short	Low
271. Repair	Low	Short	Low
272. Replace	High	Long	High
273. Remove	Low	Short	Low
274. Repair	Low	Short	Low
275. Replace	High	Long	High
276. Remove	Low	Short	Low
277. Repair	Low	Short	Low
278. Replace	High	Long	High
279. Remove	Low	Short	Low
280. Repair	Low	Short	Low
281. Replace	High	Long	High
282. Remove	Low	Short	Low
283. Repair	Low	Short	Low
284. Replace	High	Long	High
285. Remove	Low	Short	Low
286. Repair	Low	Short	Low
287. Replace	High	Long	High
288. Remove	Low	Short	Low
289. Repair	Low	Short	Low
290. Replace	High	Long	High
291. Remove	Low	Short	Low
292. Repair	Low	Short	Low
293. Replace	High	Long	High
294. Remove	Low	Short	Low
295. Repair	Low	Short	Low
296. Replace	High	Long	High
297. Remove	Low	Short	Low
298. Repair	Low	Short	Low
299. Replace	High	Long	High
300. Remove	Low	Short	Low