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**Tender awarded for Twentyfirst Street Bridge redesign**

Renmark Paringa Council are pleased to announce that Tonkin Consulting has been awarded the tender to undertake the options and design investigation for the Twentyfirst Street Bridge in Renmark.

Following the flood, engineering assessments confirmed that the Twentyfirst Street Bridge is no longer safe for use and needs to be replaced.  It was evident during the flood that the road and bridge form a constriction point that inhibits the natural flow of flood water. Instead of undertaking a like-for-like replacement of the bridge, it was recommended to consider design options for improving the effectiveness and resilience of the future asset.

Tonkin’s work will commence immediately and will include site investigation works as well as developing potential construction options for this important asset. The replacement of an asset of this value requires a detailed investigation to identify all potential options and understand the cost and benefits of each. This will ensure that the selected solution is the most cost effective and achieves the objectives of withstanding potential future flooding events

Council will continue to advocate and collaborate with the State Government to source the necessary funding for the redesign and construction of the new Twentyfirst Street Bridge.

Mayor Peter Hunter, said “We are pleased to have Tonkin Consulting on board for this important project. Their expertise and experience has been proven time and again – highlighted most recently as we moved together - very successfully, through many flood related issues. Having them onboard, with the knowledge they have accumulated during recent flood works, will ensure that the option and design works are of the highest quality and that the new bridge will be a safe and resilient asset for our community for many years to come.”

Mayor Peter Hunter also said “Council is keen to obtain funding from the State Government rather than increase rates or divert from another project. We believe that the cost to redesign and reconstruct the Twentyfirst Street Bridge should not be entirely the burden of the ratepayers and we will continue to work hard to get the funding and support required.”

As the bridge is deemed unsafe, it will remain closed. Council wishes to remind the community to please adhere to signage and keep out of restricted areas.

For further information, please refer to the project website <https://www.renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au/services/flood-recovery-and-support/twentyfirst-street-bridge-recovery>

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