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## **Central Avenue and Myrtle Street bridges will be replaced**

The Sarasota County Commission Tuesday approved a \$767,682 contract to replace the Central Avenue Bridge at Whitaker Bayou and the Myrtle Street Bridge at Canal 3-7. Lovin Construction Inc. of Bradenton was awarded the contract.

Both bridges are considered obsolete. They lack paved shoulders, bicycle lanes and sidewalks.

New bridges will be constructed with an 11-foot travel lane in each direction and 4-foot bicycle lanes on each side. The Central Avenue bridge also will have a sidewalk on the east side connected to a future area sidewalk. The Myrtle Street Bridge will have sidewalks on both sides.

Construction is expected to take about 190 days, with estimated completion in November.

This project is part of the Sarasota County Economic Stimulus Program of fast-track, capital-improvement projects. Funding is provided by the penny surtax (1-cent sales tax).

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

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