



Frequently Asked Questions – 2020 Local Road Construction

Q: What work is being done as part of the project?

A: The project will involve the complete reconstruction of your subdivision roads including a new stone base, asphalt or concrete road surface, gravel shoulder (covered with topsoil or curb and gutter), some storm sewer repair or improvements, and grass restoration. Some projects may also include ditching, edge drain installation, or curb and gutter repair or replacement.

Q: How long will construction take?

A: Each project has a specific contract length that can vary based on the size and scope of the project. In general, the contractor will be working from May 1 – September 1. Please note that there may be some final restoration and minor items that will carry over to the following year for each phase.

Q: How is this project funded?

A: Funding for the road construction is provided by the City's Local Road Millage.

Q: Will I be able to access my driveway during construction?

A: Access will be maintained to all properties within the project area during construction with the following exceptions: when crews are working directly in front of a driveway and when concrete is curing (setting and hardening). Waiting times should last no longer than 15 minutes if construction crews are working in the roadway; however, for concrete roadways and driveways, closures up to 7-10 days after pouring will be necessary to allow for the concrete to cure.

Q: How will mail delivery, trash pickup, and recycling pickup be affected?

A: Mail service will be maintained. If your mailbox is located near the roadway, a temporary mailbox will be provided for your address during construction. Porch mailboxes will not be affected. Your existing mailbox will be removed and temporarily placed on your lawn near your property line until it is reinstalled near the finished roadway. If your mailbox or mailbox post do not meet current postal standards, a replacement standard metal mailbox or wood post will be provided and installed as necessary to meet current requirements.

Trash and recycling pickup will continue on your normally scheduled pickup day and may occur as early as 7:00 AM, so please have your garbage out for pickup prior to that time.

Q: Where does the City property end and my private property begin?

A: The City property ends and your private property begins at the right-of-way line. The right-of-way line is typically located 30 feet from the centerline of the road on local roadways.

Q: Will my driveway and culvert pipe be replaced as part of the project?

A: Driveway approaches will only be replaced as necessary to match the new adjacent roadway or curb elevation. In general, concrete approaches will be replaced up to the first joint in the driveway and asphalt driveways will be replaced up to four feet from the edge of the roadway.

Select driveway approaches and culverts will be replaced up to the right-of-way line only as necessary for roadway drainage improvements or to obtain an acceptable driveway slope. Driveways that are buckling due to the underlying culvert will not be replaced unless the culvert is failing; they will not be replaced due to buckling alone. A failing culvert is defined as a culvert that is rusting out or has holes in it.

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Q: Will my trees and landscaping be affected from the construction work?

A: In general, the City will not disrupt trees that are not affecting the roadway or adjacent sidewalk. If the tree provides a danger to drivers or could compromise the lifespan of the new roadway, steps may be taken to remove it.

The City does not replace special landscaping, brick, timbers or plantings located within the City's right-of-way. The contractor will make every effort to avoid damage to specialty landscaping; however, fixed objects in the right-of-way such as large rocks, brick landscaping or brick mailboxes are not permitted and will be removed for the safety of drivers.

Q: What is the purpose of ditching along the roadway?

A: Ditches protect the lifespan of the roadway by capturing rainwater from the adjacent properties and pavement. They are necessary in subdivisions where there is not a full storm sewer system. It is not the City's intent to enclose existing open ditches. In some cases, in order to allow for proper drainage, enclosed ditches will need to be re-ditched and will not be re-enclosed.

Q: When and how will my grass be restored?

A: This project is not expected to significantly affect adjacent lawns and landscaping. Where lawn areas have been impacted by the contractor's operations, the disturbed areas will be replaced with topsoil, seed and mulch or hydroseed. Sod will not be used. Restoration may not begin until after Labor Day, depending on the weather. These areas will need to be cared for like the rest of your lawn. Regular grass watering during restoration will help ensure success and we appreciate your efforts in assisting in this regard.

Q: Will my sprinkler lines / invisible dog fencing / sump pump discharge lines be affected?

A: The contractor will make every effort to avoid damage to private buried lines in the right-of-way; however, we would appreciate your assistance in locating any sprinkler systems, buried invisible dog fencing lines or sump discharge pipes located near the roadway and ask that you flag them so that adequate protection can be made. If you need assistance in this regard, please contact the Engineering Division.

Q: Will the contractor be working at night?

A: The contractor is permitted to work Monday - Saturday from 7:00am - 7:00pm. They will not be permitted to work outside of those hours without written authorization from the Director of Public Services.

Q: How will the contractor keep dust to a minimum?

A: A City Inspector on site will be monitoring the amount of dust present during construction. If it is determined that measures are needed, the contractor will be required to place water or calcium chloride on the roadway.

Q: How can I stay informed during construction?

A: A project-specific email list will be created for each project for those interested in receiving periodic email updates from the City as the project moves forward. Instructions for subscribing to the email list can be found on the City website at <https://www.fhgov.com/Government/News-Information/eNews-List-Serv.aspx>

Q: Who can I contact if I have questions during the project?

A: A City Inspector will be present during the entirety of the project and will be available on site and by phone to answer any questions you may have. Information will be provided at the project Open House prior to the start of construction. Property owners and residents within the project limits will receive an invitation in the mail with relevant Open House details.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the Engineering Division at 248-871-2560.