



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

Dan Haak, Manager
Street Engineering/Construction
900 City Hall Annex
25 W. Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660

Telephone: 651-266-6080
Fax: 651-292-6315

August 18, 2014

Dear Property Owner:

The City of Saint Paul's Department of Public Works will be reconstructing the streets in your neighborhood during the summer of 2015 as part of the Residential Street Vitality Program (RSVP). The work in your neighborhood is called the Como-Chatsworth RSVP Project. The streets to be reconstructed are shown on the map on the last page of this letter.

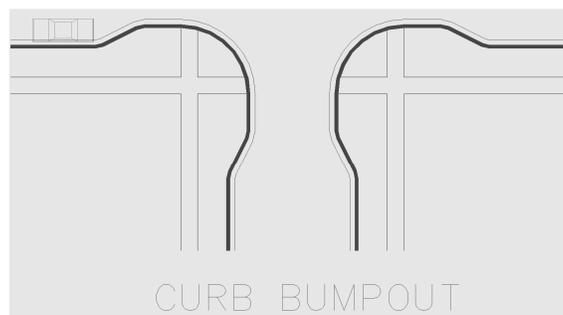
GENERAL STREET RECONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

Street reconstruction includes concrete curb and gutter, storm sewer drains, sewer and water main repairs / replacements as needed, new bituminous pavement, sodded boulevards, lantern style street lighting, concrete outwalks and driveway aprons, and public art. In addition, as part of the City's Emerald Ash Borer Management Program, all ash trees in the boulevards will be removed by the City prior to the start of construction. New trees will be planted in the boulevards as space allows, once the project is completed.

We are sending out this advance notice of the project so you can start to think about some options for your neighborhood. Some of those project options are listed below.

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming devices such as bump-outs, can be added to the project by petition of the nearby property owners.



A bump-out extends the curb line 6 feet into the street, about the width of a parked car, so that a pedestrian at the corner has better sight lines for on-coming traffic, and their crossing distance is shorter.

The parking near the intersection is removed due to the bumped-out curb, resulting in the narrowing of the street in that immediate area. The street with the proposed bump-out must be at least 32 feet wide to add a bump-out on one side, or 38 feet wide for a bump-out on both sides. To find out more about traffic calming methods and the petition process, please contact Monica Beeman from the Saint Paul Public Works Traffic Division at 651-266-6214.



Sidewalks

Existing sidewalks will be reviewed by Public Works and may be replaced depending on the severity of any deterioration. New sidewalks can be added where no sidewalk exists. Additional assessments may apply to new sidewalk locations. Call Al Czaia from the Saint Paul Public Works Sidewalk Division at 651-266-6108 for more information.

Alleys

Alley paving may be requested by the abutting property owners. A completed petition must be submitted by the property owners before October 31, 2014 for an alley to be reconstructed in conjunction with the project. This work is 100% assessed to the abutting property owners, and typically runs about \$45.00/linear foot for an alley without storm sewer, and about \$75.00/linear foot for an alley with storm sewer. This work must get City Council approval before we can add it to the project. For more information, or to obtain the required petition, contact Scott Brimer from the Saint Paul Public Works Construction Division at 651-266-6225 as soon as possible.

Sewer Services

As part of the project, the contractor will be installing or repairing storm and sanitary sewer mains if necessary, and building catch basins to improve street drainage. During the design phase, the City will inspect the mainline sanitary sewer and the connections at the main from the individual house services. If there are indications that your sewer service connection is bad, we will send you a letter suggesting that you have it replaced as part of the project. With the City's inspection, we can only check the connection at the main and about 1 or 2 feet of pipe toward the homes. Property owners can hire a private sewer contractor to inspect the full length of the service to the house if they desire.

If you would like to have your sewer service replaced, you can save money if you have it done during construction versus after. Replacement of the connection at the main, or of the sewer service from the main to the property line, can be done by the City's contractor during the project. You will need to sign a request form if you would like the City's contractor to do that work. These forms can be obtained by calling Barb Mundahl from the Saint Paul Public Works Design Division at 651-266-6112. If you already have problems with your sewer service, you should definitely have this taken care of at the time of the project. Even if you don't have problems, you should at least consider replacing the service now to keep it in good condition long into the future.

Any sewer service work on private property must be done by a private contractor, and arranged for by the property owner. All work on the sanitary service, all the way from the main in the street to the house, is at the property owner's expense. This cost would be in addition to the assessment for the roadway and street lighting construction. Please contact the Saint Paul Sewer Utility service desk at 651-266-6234 for any specific information regarding your sanitary sewer service.

Water Services

As part of this project, Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) will replace all lead water services from the water main to the property line at no additional expense to the homeowner. Not all homes in your area have services that are lead pipe. You will be contacted by letter if your service is lead and will be affected by this replacement program. If you wish to replace the portion of the service between the property line and the house, you must hire a private contractor. SPRWS can send you a list of approved contractors. Contact the SPRWS service desk at 651-266-6270 if you have any questions.

Boulevard Rain Gardens

The City of Saint Paul is looking into partnering with the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) to promote the installation of rain gardens as part of this project. If details are worked out with the watershed district, residents will have the opportunity to request a rain garden be installed within the boulevard in front of their property at no cost. If your boulevard location would be suitable for a rain garden, the City would install a curb cut, create a small depression behind the curb, and install rain garden soil and hardwood mulch. Native plants would be provided by the watershed district, and planting could be done by property owners at a neighborhood event after completion of the street construction.

Homeowners would then be responsible to maintain the garden, which includes watering until the plants are established, and regular weeding throughout the growing season. More details about adding rain gardens to the project will be forthcoming. General information about rain gardens can be found at www.bluethumb.org.

Public Art

In 2009, the City Council passed an Ordinance supporting public art. According to the Ordinance, City construction projects such as RSVPs are required to dedicate one-percent of eligible project funds for public art. For questions about the City of Saint Paul Public Art Ordinance Program, visit www.stpaul.gov/publicart or contact Regina Flanagan at Regina.Flanagan@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-9159. For questions about the RSVP Public Art Program, contact Marcus Young at Marcus.Young@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-6211.

Assessments and Public Process

There will be an assessment for this paving project, but the 2015 assessment rate will not be set until early in 2015. For your information, the 2014 assessment rate for projects of this type was \$77.13/linear foot of property frontage. For 2015 projects, that rate could rise to between \$85.00 and \$90.00/linear foot of property. A Public Hearing for formal approval of the Como-Chatsworth project by the City Council will likely be held in January 2015. You will be sent an official notice for that hearing. You will be able to comment either for or against the project at that hearing.

Public Meeting

Public Works will host a neighborhood meeting early this fall to hear neighborhood concerns, and to inform property owners more about the construction process. Notices for this meeting will be mailed out about 2 weeks ahead of time. Construction is planned to start in the spring of 2015, and be completed by fall of 2015.

Find more information about the RSVP program at www.stpaul.gov/rsvp. If you have questions about this project, feel free to contact me at 651-266-6117.

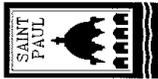
Sincerely,



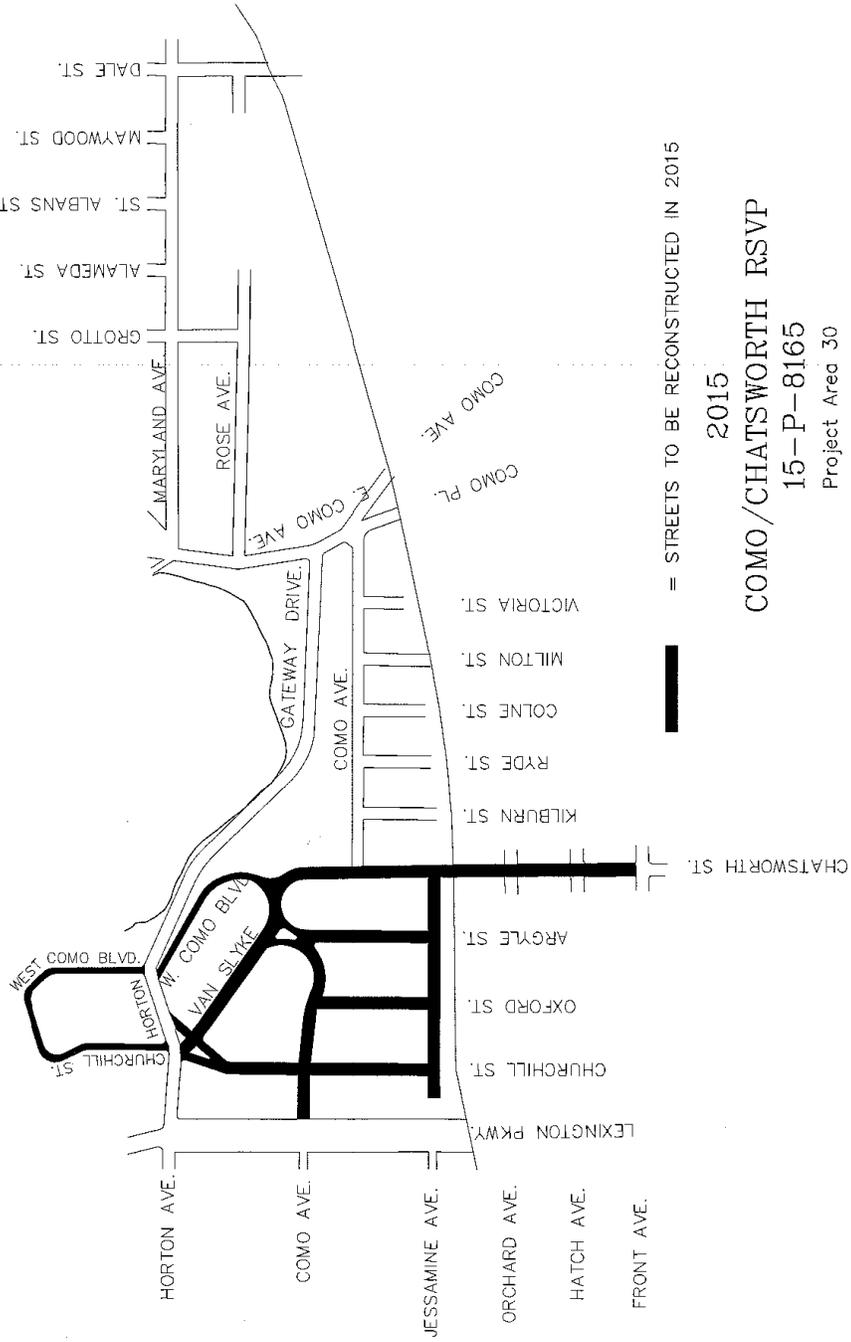
Lisa Falk-Thompson, P.E.
Project Engineer

LFT:ap

Project Area Map on Reverse Side



City of Saint Paul
 Department of Public Works
 Street Engineering and Construction Division



— = STREETS TO BE RECONSTRUCTED IN 2015

2015
COMO/CHATSWORTH RSVP
 15-P-8165
 Project Area 30
 8/13/2014