



Wabasha Street Reconstruction Project Update

April 1, 2022

Dear Saint Paul Property Owner/Tenant,

As you may be aware, there is a street reconstruction project scheduled this year for Wabasha Street from Kellogg Boulevard to 7th Street in downtown. Saint Paul Public Works is scheduled to begin our work in June 2022 through the end of November 2022.

We are writing to update property owners and tenants that Xcel Energy Gas and other utilities have notified the City of Saint Paul that they will be doing a variety of projects on Wabasha Street between Kellogg Boulevard and Exchange Street starting in April through June 2022, prior to the City's construction work.

This work will be done in phases, and Xcel Energy will have lane closures (primarily on the east side of Wabasha Street) starting on April 8. As of March 31, 2022, Metro Transit has relocated all bus routes and stops off Wabasha Street. This is a permanent change and bus transit/stops will no longer run on this section of Wabasha Street.

Xcel Energy and other utilities are required to maintain access for sidewalks, driveways, and ramps during construction. Please notify any tenants/businesses, employees, customers, and visitors about the project and changing parking restrictions and/or potential access issues.

For specific questions, timing, or concerns about this work, please contact Xcel Energy Gas or other utilities directly.

The City of Saint Paul's Wabasha Street Reconstruction Project is slated to begin in June 2022.

Currently, we anticipate this work to be done in three phases (see attached map), which will require full road closures during the active construction phase.

Saint Paul Public Works will continue to work with property owners and businesses to maintain access during construction. We have met with many property owners, businesses, and tenants to discuss specific concerns and project timing. Please reach out to us directly with any issues and we will try to minimize disruptions to businesses and residents as much as we are able.



Street Widths

The project proposes to narrow Wabasha Street from 44 feet to 29 feet. This new street width will accommodate two northbound travel lanes and one parking/loading lane. The narrowing of the street will move the west curb line and remove on-street parking on that side. The additional space from the west side will be used for sidewalks and a two-way off-street bikeway, which is part of the west corridor of the Capital City Bikeway. For more information about the Capital City Bikeway, please visit stpaul.gov/ccbinterimstudy.

Bricks

The existing bricks in the boulevards, parking lanes, sidewalks, and intersections will be removed and replaced with concrete.

Tree Removal and Replacement

Existing trees on the west side of the street will need to be removed. Efforts will be made to save existing trees on the east side. Trees will be replaced on both sides where possible.

Existing Areaways and Vaults

Public Works has identified where the known areaways and vaults are located on Wabasha Street (at least those that have been documented in some way). Public Works wants to meet with individual property owners prior to construction to better understand the location, use, and condition of any existing areaway or vault. The City's preference is to have areaways and vaults filled in that are no longer in use. The cost for addressing areaways or vaults will be the responsibility of the property owner.

Road Closures, Parking, and Access

During the construction, Wabasha Street from Kellogg Boulevard to 7th Street will be closed according to the phased plan. We will work with property owners and businesses to maintain access, including parking ramps. There may be times that access will be temporarily restricted. On-street parking restrictions may apply. Please follow any posted signs or hooded meters.

How do I stay informed about this project?

To find weekly project information and maps, and sign up for email updates when available, visit stpaul.gov/wabashastreet.

Who do I contact with questions?

If you have general questions, please contact Lisa Hiebert or Jeannette Rebar at 651-266-6100 or publicworksinfo@ci.stpaul.mn.us. If you have specific concerns or technical/construction questions, contact Project Engineer Barb Mundahl at 651-266-6112 or Barbara.Mundahl@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Thank you,

Saint Paul Public Works