

Woodlawn/Jefferson Phase II

Frequently Asked Questions – October 12, 2018

Here are a few questions from residents about this street reconstruction project that were received by Saint Paul Public Works:

How long is this project expected to take?

Average construction times of projects of this size is five months. This is typical given the scope of work, including replacing watermains, sewer mains and other services, as well as street paving, sidewalks, street lighting and boulevard work.

When will this project start?

The project is expected to begin Summer (late June) of 2019.

Will we be able to park our cars on the street?

We expect that there will be times throughout the project that residents will not be able to park vehicles in front of their property. The replacement of utilities requires deep excavation, parking will be banned where contractors are working. Typically, contractor hours are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Residents can choose to park on the street between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. if space permits and the contractor is not actively working in the area. Please note that for safety reasons, contractors will secure or fill any open areas before leaving for the evening.

There will be several days when the contractor pours the curb and/or the driveway apron, during these times the use of a resident's driveway will not be possible. New concrete requires five days to cure. Homeowners will be notified prior to this work. Project staging will attempt to maintain parking on adjacent streets. The contractors will provide access to driveways as soon as possible.

Will I have a new sidewalk that goes out to the street?

As part of the project, every residence will receive a new 3' wide, concrete outwalk to the street. Specialty surfaces will not be replaced. Residents may request no outwalk.

What will happen to the grass in my yard?

All planned work, with the exception of additional private utility services work, is being conducted in the public right of way. The City will have contractors place new sod after the concrete flatwork is completed.

What happens with our sprinkler system that is in our yard?

All sprinkler systems installed in the City right of way require a permit. Please plan accordingly, the permit clearly outlines that the property owner is responsible for any removal or repair to sprinkler systems: "That the permittee shall, at no cost to the city, repair any damage to the underground sprinkling system which occurs during the normal course of city maintenance and/or construction of public facilities." *St. Paul, Minnesota - Code of Ordinances/PART II - LEGISLATIVE CODE/Title XII - STREETS, SIDEWALKS, BRIDGES, OTHER PUBLIC WAYS/Chapter 129. - Sprinkler Systems in Boulevards*

What species of trees will be planted in the neighborhood?

Prior to the start of construction, the City Forester will review the trees within the project area based on health, condition and proposed construction within the drip line of the tree, including any work to underground utilities, to determine which trees will need to be removed and which can be preserved. Forestry will plant a variety of tree species depending on conditions. Exact species and locations will be determined as the project progresses. For questions regarding trees, please contact Zach Jorgensen at 651-632-2437.

What is the project cost and are we going to be assessed for this work?

The budget for this project is \$6,000,000. Abutting property owners are assessed for approximately 20% of the total cost of the project. The individual property owner's assessment is based proportionally on the linear footage of each property. For questions about assessments, please contact Lynn Moser at 651-266-8851.

What is happening with the possibility of putting a sidewalk on Stonebridge Avenue? There doesn't appear to be room for a sidewalk with existing yards and driveways. Isn't this a historical area that must be preserved?

In February 2017, the Saint Paul City Council adopted a policy of installing sidewalks where none exist as an integral part of all reconstruction projects. This area is not a Heritage Preservation District, and there are not historic properties listed in the National Registrar in the project area.

The City's public right of way is 12' behind the curb line on west side of Stonebridge and 18' behind the curb line on the east side. Based on visual inspection, sidewalk on the west side of the street would encounter fewer grade issues than on the east side. Saint Paul Public Works is sensitive to some of the residents' concerns, and we are waiting for survey data before engineering recommendations can be made.

There is no room for snow storage on Mount Curve and removing plowed snow from the existing sidewalk is extremely difficult. Will there be a boulevard adjacent to the existing sidewalk on Mount Curve?

Today, Mount Curve varies from 33' to 36' wide. If residents are amenable, Mount Curve could be narrowed to 32' or even 30' wide. The additional footage could be utilized as boulevard on the west side to accommodate street lighting, tree planting, and snow storage.

