



2026 Pelham Boulevard Street Reconstruction Construction Scheduled to Start in Late May

June 5, 2026

What is happening?

In 2026, the City of Saint Paul will be reconstructing Pelham Boulevard between Mississippi River Boulevard and Franklin Avenue. The project will replace underground utilities, as well as the sidewalks, street surface, curbs, lighting, and pedestrian ramps. An off-street bikeway at sidewalk level will be added to Pelham, and the flexible white posts currently in the street will be removed.

When is it happening?

Construction is anticipated no earlier than June 15. There are many street segments included in this project. Specific work locations and schedule are dependent on weather and contractor's capacity. Work may not always be happening on your block when construction closure and parking restrictions are in place.

General order of street construction (*each block or roadway section will likely be on a different schedule*):

- Removal of existing roadway
- Underground utility work
- Grading of roadway
- Construction of concrete curb and gutter
- Installation of new sidewalk and pedestrian ramps
- Paving of roadway and trail
- Boulevard restoration
- Tree plantings, often happen the following year

Residents are advised to sign up for project emails or visit the project webpage for regular updates at stpaul.gov/pelham

How is the project funded?

This project is funded by a 1% local option sales tax called Common Cent, as well as utility funds and assessments. Assessments are levied to benefitting property owners adjacent to the project and are verified by a special-benefit analysis provide by an independent appraiser. These property owners received a separate letter in December 2025 with their estimated assessment.

Living Through Construction

What to Expect

- Varying levels of noise
- Dust and dirt that may get on your car and clothes/items/belongings





- Mud throughout the construction area
- Limited street access
- Inconvenience

General Process Information

- If you are on the project corridor, your street will be dug up numerous times. This is because work is done in different layers, and often by different crews doing multiple types of work.
- Plan for about 4 to 5 months of disruption for the entire project. The detailed project schedule is subject to change and is weather dependent; rain will delay work.
- Business, resident, and emergency vehicle access will be maintained.
- All of the construction work is done by private, contracted construction companies. Contractors often work 5 to 6 days a week from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- The City of Saint Paul will have an onsite representative, called a Project Inspector, to routinely inspect the contractor's work.

Road Closures and Pedestrian Impacts

Construction signage can be confusing. The two most common road closure signs you will see around and within the project area are:

Road Closed to Thru Traffic: You can get to your house, but you cannot access the entirety of the street. You will eventually come to a Road Closed sign.

Road Closed: DO NOT ENTER. The street is not safe beyond the sign.



Sidewalks may remain open for people walking. If biking on the sidewalk is necessary for short lengths, please slow down and yield to people walking. Detour and closure signs will be installed where access is restricted and allowed. It's important to stay on the designated route for safety.





Communications

- Regular office hours will be scheduled once construction start date is confirmed. Date of recurring office hours will be posted at stpaul.gov/pelham once scheduled.
- Check your front door regularly for posted communications about the construction project.
- The onsite Project Inspector should be your first call with questions or issues during construction:
- Sign up for weekly email project updates at stpaul.gov/pelham
- All project information will be posted to the project webpage at stpaul.gov/pelham

Start of Construction – Project Details

Construction Hours

Generally, construction activities are between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday thru Friday. There may be occasions when contractors will need to work after 7:00 p.m. or on weekends.

Parking Restrictions

Where parking is currently allowed, you may park outside construction hours or if work is not happening on the block. In the event of an emergency, please leave your address or contact number on the dash so we can have you move your car if necessary.

Please follow all posted signs, especially “No Parking” signs. Streets will have temporary closures or lane restrictions during construction. Please notify tenants/renters/visitors about the project and any parking restrictions.

Driveway/Alley Access

There will be times when access to your driveway is not possible. Alley access are less likely to be impacted and one entrance will always be open. You will receive details and information in advance of temporary driveway or alley access restrictions.

Recycling and Garbage Collection

Recycling and garbage will be collected throughout construction. Set your carts out at your normal location close to the alley or at the end of the driveway. You will be notified if cart locations needed to be adjusted due to construction activities. For questions about recycling or garbage collection, call 651-266-6101.

Personal Items and Sprinklers in Boulevard

The project will impact the boulevard in the city's right of way, generally near pedestrian ramps and sidewalk infill and replacement areas. It is the responsibility of the property owner to remove their personal property, plantings, or sprinkler systems within the boulevard prior to construction. These will not be replaced by the city.





Concrete Work

The concrete usually takes 5-7 days to fully cure per installation. During these times, please do not walk or drive over the concrete until the area is reopened.

Questions?

For general project questions, contact Project Manager Jary Lee at jary.lee@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-1107.

