May 21, 2018

Re: Project Information -- Veterans Parkway Road Projects by City of West Des Moines

Resident:

Microsoft Corporation plans to construct a third data center in West Des Moines in the near future. The data center will be located just west of I-35 and north of the Cumming interchange. To facilitate the infrastructure needs, the City will be extending Veterans Parkway southwesterly to I-35 where a new bridge will be constructed. The roadway will be constructed as a two lane configuration similar to north of HWY 5 on the existing portion of Veterans Parkway. Veterans Parkway will also continue west of I-35 approximately 3 more miles where it will connect to the SW Grand Prairie Parkway extension. Grand Prairie Parkway will connect Veterans Parkway to Raccoon River Drive in the next two years.

Work on Veterans Parkway east of I-35 began this winter with tree clearing. The tree removal has generated a visual path of the alignment of Veterans Parkway from SE Maffitt Lake Road to I-35 paralleling the Great Western Trail.

The first segment was awarded to McAninch Corporation and they will start grading the roadway and demolition of the structures very soon. Their project will extend from SE Maffitt Lake Road to SE Adams Street. The work crossing County Line Road west of the trail will require a road closure while grading, utility installation and paving of the roadway occurs. Veterans Parkway will extend southwesterly crossing SE Orillia Road and this work will be completed in stages to maintain traffic on SE Orillia Road. During the construction we will utilize temporary traffic signals to maintain one lane of traffic through the future intersection on SE Orillia Road. You should anticipate some short delays with the addition of temporary signals through the intersection. McAninch will be limited to 10 weeks to complete this stage. SE Orillia Road will be fully opened as soon as this work is completed.

Veterans Parkway will continue southwesterly crossing SE Adams Street parallel to the Great Western Trail. The work crossing SE Adams Street west of the trail will require a road closure while grading, utility installation and paving the roadway occurs. McAninch will be limited to 6 weeks to complete this stage. As part of the project SE Adams Street will not reconnect to Veterans Parkway for westbound but it will for eastbound. Access onto Veterans Parkway for westbound will be relocated to the SE Orillia Road intersection. This project from SE Maffitt Lake Road to SE Adams Street is to be completed by late fall 2018.

Elder Corporation has been awarded the second Veterans Parkway project from SE Adams Street to SE 50th Street. That project is scheduled to be completed by late fall 2018.
Elder Corporation has been awarded the Veterans Parkway bridge project over I-35. As with a typical bridge project over the interstate there will be a few night closures to set bridge beams. This project is a 240 working day contract.

The County conservation boards have requested the City to make improvements to the areas where the Great Western Trail will cross adjacent to the roadways. When that work occurs there will be temporary routes around the work zones that will maintain access for trail users.

The City will be applying granular material and spraying liquid dust control on select City and County gravel roads sections to minimize the impacts of the construction traffic. The City will have consultant engineers and inspectors performing construction inspection and daily oversight on the projects.

Attached are maps indicating the overall scope of the project and the work specific to the former Orillia area. The projects west of I-35 will continue into the 2019 construction season. If you have any questions or if an issue occurs, you may contact our office or email and we will reply to your inquiry. We will list each of the projects on our City website providing periodic construction updates. If you go to www.wdm.iowa.gov and click on the orange cone “City Projects”, it will transfer you to the construction updates page.

Sincerely,

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On the Construction Updates page - scroll down to the Veterans Parkway project for additional information