City of West Des Moines – Engineering Services (515) 222-3475

2020 Street Reconstruction Program

12th Street (Vine Street to Walnut Street)

Walnut Street (12th Street to 13th Street)

The City of West Des Moines has hired Bolton & Menk to design and manage a construction project that will make several major improvements in your neighborhood. This 4-6 month project will replace the storm sewer, sanitary sewer manholes and portions of 12th Street and Walnut Street. A map on page 3 shows the location of this project.

The new storm sewer will improve drainage for the area and will be constructed on Walnut Street (from 13th Street to 12th Street) and on 12th Street (from Walnut Street to Vine Street). Existing driveway approaches and portions of the sidewalk in the right-of-way that are impacted by this work will be removed and replaced. Crews also will completely remove existing street pavement and replace it with a new two-lane concrete pavement.

During construction, our goal is to maintain pedestrian access, mail service and garbage collection by using existing sidewalks or temporary means as needed. Vehicle parking will be moved to adjacent side streets. The City also has an agreement with the Bridges of Iowa to allow residents to park at the vacant Iowa Caregivers facility at 1211 Vine Street as an alternate to on-street parking. If you have physical limitations and walking to available parking areas presents a hardship, please contact us so we can make accommodations for you.

When crews are working, you may notice equipment noise, dust and vibrations. Every effort will be made to minimize these issues and still allow our contractor to complete this project. Although allowable working hours are 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., contractors typically work 10 to 12 hour days depending on weather and site conditions. This will likely include Saturdays, but Sunday work is not anticipated.

As crews begin paving, segments of the street will be closed to all traffic until the paving work is done. The project will be broken up into two phases to limit the time when vehicle access is not allowed. We estimate the contractor will take 9-12 weeks to complete each phase, depending on the weather. The contractor will start with storm sewer installation (Phase 1) on Walnut Street and then pave the road. Phase 1 will reopen as soon as the road is ready for traffic.

Underground utility construction on 12th Street (Phase 2) will begin as Walnut Street is being paved. Once Phase 2 underground work is complete on 12th Street, paving will begin, and the street will reopen when ready for traffic. Any areas of the right-of-way or private lawns that are disturbed by construction will be restored with sod later in the fall when weather conditions are cooler.
PROJECT SCHEDULE
We anticipate work on this project will take about 4 to 6 months, weather permitting. The City Council has approved ordering construction on this project.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
Although the majority of property required to construct this project is already owned by the City, we may require additional ROW and temporary easements. City staff will contact affected property owners individually to discuss any additional ROW or easements.

PROPERTY OWNER SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT OPTION
As part of this project, property owners may choose to have the contractor replace the sanitary sewer service line to the house from the City sanitary sewer main through the right-of-way. The cost for replacing the sewer service line has yet to be determined, but if you choose to have the line replaced, the costs will be the property owner’s responsibility and payment for the work will need to be made to the City in advance. Any property owner interested in having their sanitary sewer line replaced should contact one of the individuals listed on page 2.

PROJECT FINANCING
Property owners will not be charged or incur special assessments to pay for this project. All work (with the exception of the sanitary sewer replacement option mentioned above) will be financed through the City’s Capital Improvement Program.

SUMMARY
Your elected leaders and City staff would like to thank you in advance for working with us to complete this project. We know this type of major construction will inconvenience you and your neighbors, so we truly appreciate your understanding, patience and cooperation as we work to improve your neighborhood.

Please feel free to share this information with others. If you would prefer to meet with City staff directly, just call us to schedule a meeting. We also will be posting additional information once construction begins on the City’s website at www.wdm.iowa.gov/constructionupdates.

City staff and representatives from Bolton & Menk will be on-site on Wednesday, March 11, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. to talk with residents about this project.

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS
Please contact any of the following individuals as questions or concerns develop:
  • Chadd Kahlsdorf, Project Manager, Bolton & Menk, Inc. — (515) 259-9190
  • Jason Schlickbernd, Principal Engineer, City of West Des Moines — (515) 222-3475