

April 13, 2012

Good Afternoon!

Nicollet Ave reconstruction project weekly update.

Minneapolis Water began to replace gate valves on the water mains in late February. Water shutoffs are typically done between the hours of 11pm and 5am to minimize impacts. Affected properties will be notified in advance of the shutoffs (a minimum of 48 hours for businesses).

1. The testing on the valve affecting the area from Lake Street to 32nd has been completed and it's been determined that it will not need to be replaced at this time.
2. The valve near 33rd and Nicollet (affects water service on 33rd St from Pleasant Ave to 1st Ave) will need to be replaced and that work is scheduled to start April 23rd.

Center Point Energy will replace the gas main. Their work has started on the east side of Nicollet north of 31st St, and continue to work south. The work included directionally boring the new main line in the sidewalk area. Where it crosses existing utilities they will have to dig a small hole "pot hole" to locate the other utility. This work may result in some sidewalk being removed and parking restrictions in the area they are working.

There may be disruptions to service when connections are being moved from the old main to the new main. Center Point will coordinate service disruptions directly with their customers. Relocating the service will not happen for a few weeks. We will share additional information and updates on schedules and parking impacts as it's available.

Centurylink/Qwest has determined that they will need to rebuild their manholes along the avenue. (The existing manholes are brick structures built in the early 1900's.) They have started their work on a manhole midblock between Lake St and 31st. They are also working on a manhole west of Nicollet on 32nd St, this work is due to some existing cable failures. They will typically work on no more than 2 manholes at a time and it's anticipated that it will take approximately 2 weeks to complete each location. They will begin work on the north end and work south. Work will result in minor parking restrictions, but no service interruptions are anticipated as a result of this work. They will also be adding a conduit to their duct bank and making location adjustments during the paving work. We will share additional information and updates on schedules and parking impacts as it's available.

Xcel Energy will have minimal work along the corridor. There are a few power poles to relocate that provide power to the traffic signals.

Comcast has not indicated any work needed along the corridor.

Contractor bids for the construction project have been opened awarded by the City Council. The contract is currently being circulated for signatures and we expect it to be in place by the end of April.

Upcoming Construction Schedule:

April 18 – Community Project Kick-off meeting (9:30 am and 6:30 pm meetings will be held at Martin Luther King Park)

Major construction expected to start early May. Minneapolis traffic will begin work on temporary street lighting and traffic signals prior to the start of the major construction activities.

Proposed Phasing:

May/June – Construction area – Lake Street to 32nd St.

July/August – Construction area – 32nd St and 35th St

Sept/Oct – Construction area – 35th St and 36th St

Areas not under construction will be open to traffic and local access will be maintained through the construction zone.

Regular stakeholder meetings will be scheduled during the construction process, dates and locations have not been set yet.

If you have any questions regarding the project, feel free to contact me, Beverly Warmka, Project Engineer at beverly.warmka@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-3762

Additional information regarding the project can be found on the project website at http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/all/cip_nicollet31-40_index

Information regarding business assistance during road construction information can be found at: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/business/WCMS1P-089716> or you may contact Erik Hansen, Project Business Liaison, at erik.hansen@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-5022. You may subscribe to future emails at: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MPLS/subscriber/new?topic_id=MPLS_169

Thanks everyone for your continued time and interest on this project.

Beverly Warmka, P.E.