

Penn Avenue S Reconstruction Update Feb. 20, 2013

This is an update specific to Phase 1 (2013 Construction) of the Penn Avenue S reconstruction project. The Phase 1 limits are from the crosstown to 100 feet north of 54th Street W.

The public hearing for street reconstruction, street lighting and areaways was held on Jan. 29, 2013. About one dozen property owners attended and spoke in opposition to the lighting project assessment, and some also spoke in opposition to the street reconstruction assessment. At the end of the hearing, the Council Committee recommended the street reconstruction proceed and that the street lighting portion of the project be denied. The full City Council passed action as recommended by the Council Committee. Therefore, the street lighting proposal and assessments associated with it are canceled, and the street reconstruction and related assessments will proceed.

Preliminary coordinated work will include maintenance by Minneapolis Water Treatment and Distribution Services and tree removal by the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board.

- Fire hydrants at 56th Street and 61st Street are tentatively scheduled to be replaced on Thursday and Friday. The work is expected to require some temporary traffic control, parking restrictions, and bus stop closures which should last less than a day at each location.
- The Park Board plans to remove Ash trees due to Emerald Ash Borer. The Park Board will distribute letters to businesses and residences along Penn Avenue next week notifying/ reminding people of planned Ash tree removals. Ash trees will be marked prior to removal. Tree removal is expected to require about five days of work and will require full-width closure of Penn Avenue. Tree removals between 54th Street and the Crosstown may begin as early as March 17. When paving is complete, the project will pay to have the Park Board plant new boulevard trees at no additional cost to residents.

The start of street reconstruction and further coordinated work is planned to progress in stages along the length of Penn Avenue, beginning with pavement removal from just south of 54th Street to just north of 60th Street (see map below). Stage 1 is anticipated to begin in April.



A pre-construction public meeting will be held before the start of pavement removals. If you have questions that cannot wait for that meeting, please contact the construction engineer, Stephanie Malmberg.

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