

East Isles Sewer Improvements Project

Virtual public meeting notes

8/25/20, 5-6 p.m.

Meeting statistics

Number of Participants: 12

Questions

1. Can you address, in as much detail as possible, the timeline for disruptions on Humboldt Avenue. Thank you!
 - There will be daily road closures on Humboldt Avenue for crews to install pipe under the roadway. The road will be fully closed only near the active construction area, these closures will move up Humboldt Avenue as crews progress from south to north.
 - Daily road closures will occur three times for residents on Humboldt Avenue between The Mall and 28th Street (once each for installation of the water main, storm sewer, and sanitary sewer pipes).
 - Daily road closures will only occur one time for residents on Humboldt Avenue between 28th Street and 27th Street (only sanitary sewer pipe).
 - During daily road closures:
 - The project will be temporarily restored to gravel by 7 p.m. each night to allow residents to access their driveways. Exceptions include emergency or unplanned work, weather, etc.
 - If there are heavy rains, residents may want to park on an adjacent side street and walk to their homes until the contractor is able to clean up the site and restore a harder surface for vehicles to drive on.
 - These closures may occur over multiple days for each pipe in each section of the road. More details will be available closer to construction.
 - Emergency access will be coordinated with all agencies, and crews will have a plan for emergency access during construction activities.
 - Other access restrictions or closures will be periodic and shorter-term (examples: while crews remove pavement, move equipment, paving, etc.).
 - Residents will be notified in advance of any driveway closures or access changes to/from their homes.
2. I live in a building where the lot is only accessible from the 2700 block of Humboldt Avenue. Will there be times I cannot access the lot?
 - Yes, Humboldt Avenue will have daytime access closures when crews are installing pipe in the area. Residents will be able to access their driveways after 7 p.m. each working day and will be notified in advance of any access closures.

3. With Humboldt Avenue being a one way approaching 27th Street, how will access be handled?
 - We have been working with Scott Kraemer with the City of Minneapolis Traffic Department to create the detour plans for this project. The contractor will also need to submit detour plans, under MCES guidance, that will need to be approved by the City.
 - In certain areas, bi-directional traffic will be allowed on Humboldt Avenue as certain activities will require residents to access their homes from only one end of the roadway.
 - Detour routes will be signed, and residents in the immediate construction area will be notified in advance of any access changes.
4. Referencing the 7 pm closing time, how early may access be blocked in the morning? Is there any duty for the contractor to provide any advance notice?
 - Anticipated work hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Any planned afterhours work would need to be approved by MCES and the City of Minneapolis.
 - Residents will be notified in advance of any planned access closures.
 - Residents and people traveling through the area should expect periodic short-term access and traveling delays throughout construction (examples: while crews move equipment and haul materials).
5. Will the alley for the back side of Humboldt from 28th St be open and accessible during the work?
 - Yes, residents should always be able to access the alleyway during the project. During construction, pay attention to traffic and detour signs because many streets will have changes to traffic direction.
 - Because there are so many one-way streets in the area, maintaining access will require us to change traffic flow throughout the work. Some days, streets may go one direction, then change to the other direction, or be bi-directional on other days.
 - There may be some periods when access to the alley is only available to/from one side or the other.
 - Detour/directional signs will be posted and residents in the immediate area will be notified in advance of any access changes.
6. How long will residents be on temporary water?
 - The City of Minneapolis will install an aboveground temporary water system before any water main work begins. The temporary water system will be flushed, then pressure tested and tested for bacteria before it begins servicing homes. We estimate that residents will be on temporary water for a month and a half.
7. Will residents see any difference in their water quality?
 - Water pressure may be little lower on temporary water. Water quality will remain the same. The same water that flows through the water main will flow through the temporary pipes.
 - The water will have passed all tests before it is fed to residential properties.
 - Residents should call 311 with any water issues or concerns. Residents can also call or email the MCES project so we can follow up with the City on any reported water concerns or issues.

8. What are the temporary wastewater conveyance pipes?
 - Crews continue installing the aboveground temporary wastewater conveyance system. Once this system is tested, crews will begin diverting wastewater through the temporary conveyance pipes.
 - Temporary wastewater conveyance pumps will run 24 hours a day 7 days a week (24/7) and crews will be available onsite to maintain them 24/7.
9. MCES just did a project in the area in 2013, why didn't you include this portion back then?
 - MCES had heard from the City of Minneapolis that they were looking into ways to address the flooding issues in the Humboldt Avenue area, but they were not ready to complete their work back then. To minimize impacts to area residents, both agencies agreed to coordinate their projects and the work on Humboldt is an example of that.
10. What are the benefits of the new dual sanitary sewer pipes?
 - Having multiple sanitary sewer pipes helps protect the environment and public health.
 - It ensures system reliability for businesses and residents in the area.
 - Multiple pipes create a cost-effective system for everyone on the regional line (Minneapolis to St. Louis Park to Hopkins and everyone further down the line).
11. Who do we contact if we have more questions? How do we find more information on the project?
 - Residents can email (info@eastislessewerproject.com) or call 612-439-5225 if they have any questions or concerns that arise during the MCES sewer construction project.
 - Visit our project website (www.metrocouncil.org/sewerconstruction/eastisles) to sign up for email updates (sent during construction) or for more information on the project.