Project Need & Method

1. Why is this project needed now?
The existing Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (Environmental Services) regional sanitary sewer pipe has been in service for over 23 years. A routine inspection found that the sewer pipe has deflected causing structural deficiencies. There is no definitive reason for the deflection; it is likely due to a combination of reasons.

2. How is Environmental Services planning to correct the situation?
To avoid a costly and disruptive emergency repair, Environmental Services is focused on correcting the situation. Planning for the project included reviewing different alternatives such as regional sanitary sewer pipe realignment, rehabilitating the existing pipe, and building a pump station. Criteria such as impacts to neighbors, the environment, project duration, and future maintenance and reliability were evaluated leading to the selection of the guided boring construction method. This construction method involves tunneling a new sanitary sewer pipe underground between access pits.

Construction Process

3. What will work look like?
The work at each access pit includes deep excavation (30-50 feet), pipe placement, new maintenance structure construction, and restoration. The work at each access pit will take 8 to 10 weeks. The contractor will need roughly 1,500 square feet of staging area at each access pit to support the tunneling work.

Learn more about the construction process here.
Timeline Information

4. **What are the work hours?**
   The City Ordinance limits construction between the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the week and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends. Typical Environmental Services construction hours are Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

5. **What is the project timeline?**
   It is anticipated that the project will start in May 2024 and conclude in January 2025. Permanent road restoration will occur in spring 2025.

6. **How will the project work be phased?**
   Residents can expect the entire street to feel like a construction area throughout the project in 2024. Work will start at the two maintenance structures located along the trail north of 72nd Avenue. The work will progress to the south along 72nd Avenue. Residents can expect 3-4 maintenance structures to be under construction at one time.

   Below please find our anticipated construction schedule for each access pit. Please note all timing estimates are subject to change due to weather, materials availability, and other construction factors.
Impacts

7. **What are the impacts during construction?**

   **Anticipated Equipment & Impacts**
   - Approximately 5-10 dump trucks will travel through the neighborhood each day throughout the project loaded with dirt or providing fill.
   - Excavators will be loading/unloading which will produce dust and noise.
   - Vacuum trucks may be used at times to extract soil. Vacuum trucks make a high-pitched noise when operating.
   - During tunneling, a crane and front-end loader will be operating.
   - All equipment has back-up alarms for safety.

   **Vegetation & Tree Impacts**
   - Vegetation disruptions in the boulevard within the project area.
   - Tree trimming and removal along the trail at the north end of 72nd Avenue.

   **Lawn Irrigation Systems**
   - Certain properties near a maintenance structure may have irrigation system damage that will be resolved during restoration.

8. **What utilities will be impacted and for how long?**

   **Anticipated Water Impacts**
   - Residents along 72nd Avenue and 72nd Place will experience daytime water disruptions when the watermain is being relocated. This work is anticipated to occur three times and last 3-6 hours per time. Residents will receive notice in advance of water disruptions.

   **Garbage and Recycling Removal**
   - Environmental Services will work with local waste removal companies to maintain service throughout construction.

9. **What are the traffic impacts/closures?**

   **Park Traffic**
   - To minimize congestion in the neighborhood, park traffic will be directed to only use Vagabond Lane.

   **One Lane Road**
   - 72nd Avenue N and Vagabond Lane are expected to become one lane roads around construction areas. One lane road signs, stop signs, and take turns signs will be posted for safety.

   **Road Closure**
   - The project team anticipates a three-day road closure of a small segment of 72nd Avenue two times during the project. Crews will work with residents near the closure to access their driveways. Residents living east of the closure will have to access their homes via 72nd Place. These closures will likely occur in the spring and fall 2024.

   **Driveway Impacts**
   - Driveway access, or at least partial driveway access, is expected to be maintained for all residents throughout construction.
**Trail Impacts**
- The neighborhood trail north of 72nd Avenue is anticipated to be closed spring to summer 2024.

**Sidewalk Impacts**
- Sidewalks on both sides of 72nd Avenue N are expected to be closed in segments when construction is nearby.
- The sidewalk on the east side of Vagabond Lane between 70th Place and 72nd Avenue is anticipated to be closed when construction occurs in the area in fall and winter 2024.
- The sidewalk along the north side of 70th Place between Vagabond Lane and the trail leading to Bass Lake Road is anticipated to be closed when construction occurs in the area in fall and winter 2024.
Safety

10. What safety measures will be in place during construction?
   Environmental Services is committed to the safety of neighbors and our crews.
   - Work and staging areas are protected during construction.
   - Safety meetings are held regularly, and a safety officer monitors each project.
   - Impacted residents are engaged to learn about our work and how to stay safe throughout construction and restoration.

11. How will access pits be secured when crews are not present?
   Access pits will be surrounded by secured fencing when crews are not present.

Project Funding

12. How will this project be funded?
   This project is funded by the Environmental Services Capital Program budget and will not involve direct assessments to residents.

   The Environmental Services Capital Program is a component of the Council’s unified budget plan. The Environmental Services Division plans capital spending for new treatment plants, interceptors and/or improvements of the metropolitan wastewater system. The capital program provides capital investments to preserve and rehabilitate existing wastewater infrastructure, meet more stringent water and air quality regulations, and expand the system's capacity to meet regional growth needs. It is prepared, reviewed, and approved on a yearly basis to consider the new programs and/or adjustments to the plan.

   To learn more about the Environmental Services Capital Program budget, please visit: https://metrocouncil.org/Wastewater-Water/Projects/Capital-Program.aspx.

Stay in the Know!

Sign up to receive project email or text updates on our website.

Contact Us

Residents can always reach us through the following channels:
   - Hotline: 763.280.8705
   - Email: Connect@MCESMapleGrove.com
   - Web: metrocouncil.org/sewerconstruction/MapleGrove2024