About the Saint Paul Sandstone Tunnel Cleaning Project

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES), operator of the metro-area wastewater collection and treatment system, is cleaning a regional sanitary sewer interceptor located on the westside of St. Paul, from March 2019 through August 2019. The project is anticipated to last approximately eight months. The regional sanitary sewer interceptor consists of a 3-ft wide by 8-ft tall sandstone tunnel. Recent inspections indicated that debris removal is needed to maintain sewer operations and improved access is needed for debris removal and future maintenance activities.

This project is the first of two phases. This first phase (2019) will clean the tunnel, construct the new maintenance hole access and repairs, and allow for thorough inspection. The second phase will rehabilitate the sandstone tunnel and will be completed at a later date.

Work Activities in Tunnel

The majority of work activity will occur underground in the tunnel system. This work will not be noticeable by the general public.

Work Activities on George Street between Livingston Street and Robert Street

The installation of a new maintenance hole will require construction activity for the duration of the project. The majority of above-ground work is expected to occur from March - April. This will consist of digging a 70 foot shaft and installation of the new maintenance hole. Once complete, the site will be used as an access for tunnel cleaning.

The work site will be located on the street. The site will be fenced and locked to prevent access. Construction operations will be limited to daytime hours per City of St. Paul ordinances.

Temporary Work Activity Near State Street and Stevens Street

Repairs near the intersection of State Street and Stevens Street will require the temporary closure of State Street. Road detours will be posted in advance of the closure. The temporary road closure is anticipated to last approximately two months. Construction operations will be limited to daytime hours per City of St. Paul ordinances.

What Can I Expect During the Work?

While we do our best to minimize impacts during construction, some temporary inconveniences may occur as this work takes place, including:

- Noise from equipment will occur during construction of the maintenance hole shaft on George Street.
- On-street parking will be removed on George Street as part of the new maintenance hole construction and equipment/access for the tunnel cleaning. Upon completion of the project, the on-street parking will be restored.
- Temporary closure and road detour on State Street. This will also require a detour for Bus Route 68.
- Minor traffic impacts, dust, and sewer odors will likely occur.

For more information, call or email the project hotline, or visit the project website.

651-286-8457
info@westsidetunnelproject.com
www.metrocouncil.org/sewerconstruction/sandstonetunnelproject
The project area is within a tunnel system generally located near the intersection of Winifred Street and Humboldt Avenue, then heading southeast towards the intersection of Stevens Street and State Street.