Lake Street Siphon Inspection and West Meters Odor Control Modifications

Project overview
Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES), operator of the metro-area wastewater collection and treatment system, will be rehabilitating, cleaning, and inspecting the Lake Street Siphon facility starting in Fall 2020. The facility is located south of the Lake Street Bridge and consists of a headhouse structure on the west bank of the Mississippi River, a tailhouse structure on the east bank, and three 60’ diameter siphon pipes connecting the structures buried under the riverbed. The facility was constructed in 1937 and last inspected in 1993. An inspection is being conducted at this time to evaluate the existing condition of the facility and determine if repairs are required to ensure future facility reliability.

Lake Street siphon inspection
Inspection work will include:

- Permanent improvements to structural concrete, ladders, work platforms, control gates, and access hatches in the headhouse and tailhouse
- Temporary improvements to provide adequate lighting, ventilation, and access for safe entry into the confined spaces of the facility
- Inspection of the siphons to establish depth of bury, alignment, joint separation, and pipe wall thickness.

In addition to siphon inspection work, MCES will be making adjustments and improvements to the system that collects and treats odorous air from the headhouse and upstream sanitary sewers.

Impacts to residents and workplaces
- The work will require Winchell Trial to be closed and detoured for six months between the headhouse work site and the trailhead at W River Parkway.
- There will be a short-term closure (2-3 weeks) of Mississippi River Boulevard N between Eustis Street and Pelham Boulevard.
- Some tree removal is needed to access the tailhouse on the east side of the river.
- Residents will see shallow, temporary trenching for utilities in the vicinity of the tailhouse.
- While crews know this is a residential area and workplace and will do their best to limit disruptions, please anticipate some lights, noise, vibrations, and construction traffic at any time.

Project area map

For more information on the construction project, questions or concerns, contact us any time:
- info@westmetersmpls.com
- 952.491.6770