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News Release

Construction work on North Summit Street to pause for winter

Cleanup to continue through December; water lines to wrap up by Christmas

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (December 16, 2016) — The North Summit Street road improvement and water line replacement project is beginning to wind down for the winter, according to Public Works Director Eric Broce. With the onset of colder weather, further concrete pouring must wait until spring.

The contractor already has pulled back most of the traffic control devices between Cedar and Kansas avenues, filled in or covered all pits, and removed the snow fencing along North Summit Street.

Construction cones will be placed over any areas that need to be avoided in the meantime.

Meanwhile, work continues on new water lines toward the south end of the project, between Chestnut and Vine avenues along First and Summit streets. This work should wrap up before Christmas.

Overall, the North Summit Street project is about 60 percent complete, Broce indicated. Once warmer weather returns and construction resumes, approximately eight weeks will remain in the project.

Among the activities yet to be completed that will be finished in early 2017 are:

- The concrete reconstruction of intersections at Spruce, Walnut and Vine avenues. (That work already is complete for Birch, Cedar, Pine and East Poplar avenues.)
- Substantial stormwater improvements at Linden Avenue and Summit Street, followed by concrete reconstruction of the East Linden intersection. The stormwater improvements might require the temporary closure and detouring of Summit Street during overnight hours only. More information will be released publicly prior to this phase of construction.
- Miscellaneous curb, driveway and gutter replacements with new concrete.
- An asphalt milling and overlay on Summit Street from Kansas to Walnut avenues.
- New signage and pavement markings.
- Seeding and mulching the areas disturbed during the course of the construction project.

For immediate release

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Access to local businesses will continue to be maintained through the construction period.

Project history

The City Commission of Arkansas City voted unanimously on Aug. 2 to approve a contract agreement with Cornejo and Sons LLC, of Wichita, for construction of the North Summit Street and West Radio Lane street improvement and water line replacement project.

The project did not mobilize until mid-September at the discretion of the contractor. The City of Arkansas City was willing to be flexible in this matter in order to achieve a greater cost savings on the project and thus conserve more tax dollars.

The City and contractor worked together to reduce the impact of construction as much as possible on local businesses, the Arkansas City Public School District, and events such as the Arkalalah Festival.

The contract, which is for an amount not to exceed \$1,800,693.05, includes milling, a new asphalt overlay and new striping on Summit Street, with new concrete intersection approaches on the side roads from Kansas to Walnut avenues. Radio Lane also was milled and received a new 2-inch asphalt overlay, as well as new pavement markings, from 15th to Summit streets.

Also, a new 8-inch water line will replace an old cast-iron water line currently located under Summit Street, between Walnut and Birch avenues. This will address existing failures and recent water main breaks that have occurred near Country Mart and Community National Bank & Trust.

Work on the water line relocation between Birch and Walnut avenues began in September and is scheduled to be complete by mid-December. The contractor is staging from the old hospital property.

The City will post periodic traffic control and detour updates on its website, www.arkansascityks.gov, and Facebook page, www.facebook.com/arkcity, as well as distribute them to local media outlets.

The actual cost of road construction will be up to \$950,693.50. Those funds will come out of the City's Street Improvement Fund — funded through a five-year, half-cent street sales tax that began in April 2009 and concluded in March 2014 — with at least \$189,227.66 remaining in the sales tax fund.

The cost of the new water line is estimated at \$550,000, which comes from the Water Distribution Fund, paid for with revenues from the sale of water produced by the City's Water Treatment Facility.

The \$300,000 cost of the Radio Lane mill and overlay will come from the City's Special Streets Fund, with at least \$335,000 remaining in the fund.

This fund consists mainly of money from gasoline taxes and banked federal exchange dollars.

The engineer's estimate for the project was \$1,998,317.19, with the Summit portion totaling \$1,669,412.19. Cornejo was the lowest of three bidders in all three facets of the project and overall.

The overall project is planned to be substantially complete by late spring 2017.