

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How will my garbage and mail services be affected?

Regular garbage/recycling service should be maintained throughout the project. Mail service will be provided through the establishment of temporary mail box locations. The contractor will be in contact with the Postal Service to establish temporary locations for the placement of mail boxes for each home in the project area.

Most existing mail boxes will not be affected by the work and will be left in place. If your mailbox is in the way of the work, it will be removed by the contractor and placed at your residence for storage by you. Upon completion of construction, your mailbox will be reset at its present location by the contractor and mail service to your home will resume.

The City will coordinate garbage and mail service. No action is required by the resident.

2. Will I be able to drive on my street during the project?

A driveable street surface will be maintained at all times during the construction. The exception would be during the installation of the city utilities and reconstruction of the existing roadway, when access may be cut off for a limited period of time. Even during those activities, though, access will be restored by the end of each day.

3. How will my driveway be restored after the construction?

Existing bituminous driveways will have a concrete apron installed. Existing concrete driveways that are in need of repair will also have a new apron installed. Driveway aprons will extend approximately 5 feet behind the curb. The remainder of the disturbed area of the driveway will be restored with the type of material currently there. In general, the apron will match your existing driveway width as long as it is within City Code requirements.

Existing concrete driveways in good condition will simply be left in place, unless some part of the work (such as City utility construction) disturbs them.

4. What if I want additional work done on my driveway?

Under this project, the City will only be repairing the part of the driveway that is disturbed by the construction. If a resident would like to have more of their driveway improved or reconstructed, they must make their own arrangements with a contractor of their choice.

The contractor for this project, Valley Paving, has offered to work with residents to provide a quote to do the work. If you are interested in contacting Valley Paving for a quote, please call Brent Carron at (952) 445-8615. Please understand that any additional driveway work would be totally outside the City contract, and would be at the sole expense and responsibility of the homeowner. The City would have no liability for such work.

5. What if I have more than one driveway, or want to widen my existing driveway?

The City has an ordinance that specifically addresses the requirements for residential driveways. If you have more than one driveway to your property, or want to widen the driveway that you currently have, you will need permission from the City. An informational packet on driveways is available at City Hall, along with the application forms for permits. The number for City Hall is (763) 784-6491, and office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

6. *Will there be times when I will be unable to use my driveway?*

The main interruption to access of your driveway will be during the construction of the concrete curb and gutter and concrete driveway apron. For this work, access to driveway will not be available for approximately 1 week while the concrete sets. You will be able to park on the street in front of your house during the concrete curing time. Other than that, there may be times when you will not have access to your driveway for limited periods during the installation of the city utilities and reconstruction of the existing roadway section. Those interruptions would be less than a full day.

7. *How will the boulevard be repaired?*

Reconstruction of the streets, curb, and sidewalk will require that portions of the boulevard will be disturbed. Any turf that is removed by the project will be replaced with topsoil and new sod.

8. *Who is responsible to maintain the new sod?*

Under the contract, the contractor is required to maintain the new sod for a period of 60 days after it is placed, and to make sure that it is established and growing. Once they have fulfilled those requirements, and the 60 day period ends, the care of the new sod becomes the responsibility of the property owner.

Please understand that it will take some time, possible two years or more, for the newly sodded area to completely blend in with the rest of your yard. Keep in mind that your yard has been in place for 30 to 40 years, and is well established. Think of it in terms of people – your existing yard is a mature adult, able to be self sufficient, and endure periods of drought, heat, or lack of attention (such as when you're on vacation). The newly sodded area, on the other hand, will be like an infant, much more fragile and in need of special care and attention to help it mature and become established.

9. *What will happen with shrubs, rock gardens, and other landscaping within the street right-of-way?*

The City right-of-way for the streets on the project includes a boulevard that extends approximately 14-15 feet behind the curb line. Landscaping and sprinkler systems that are within the right-of-way and the construction limits will have to be salvaged by the homeowner prior to construction. Generally anything within 5 or 6 feet of the curb should be salvaged. The construction managers will be able to answer individual questions from homeowners.

10. *Will existing trees in the boulevard be removed?*

It is anticipated that no trees will be removed as a result of the street improvements.