

IMPORTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

SOUTH OLD WOODWARD RECONSTRUCTION PHASE 3 PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

May 9, 2022

Project Overview

The South Old Woodward Reconstruction project (between Brown and Landon) is the third phase in the City's plan to improve infrastructure in downtown Birmingham. This reconstruction includes: sewer and water main improvements, installation of new pavement, landscape and sidewalk improvements. The City's contractor, Warren-based Angelo Iafate Construction Company, also managed the award-winning Old Woodward Reconstruction Project in 2018 (Phase 1) and the award-winning Maple Road Reconstruction Project in 2020 (Phase 2). When complete, South Old Woodward's improvements will allow it to manage traffic more effectively, provide an attractive experience for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, and serve the community for decades to come.

This project is a public improvement, and as noted in the Hearing of Necessity on March 14, 2022, and the Confirmation of Roll on April 11, 2022, the adjacent property owners are assessed for streetscape improvements.

Stay Informed

Sign up for the South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 News for Businesses Constant Contact group at www.bhamgov.org/enews for frequent project updates and announcements. While most information will come through email, very important information such as this announcement will be hand distributed or mailed as well. New this year, businesses within the construction area may subscribe to receive frequent text message updates throughout the project. To subscribe, **simply text PHASE3 (all caps, no spaces) to 91896**. After the initial keyword is sent, you will receive a confirmation message asking you to reply YES to verify opt-in.

Timeline

The South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 project will take place from approximately mid-May through mid-October. Preparation is underway with the removal of trees in the construction area. South Old Woodward will remain open and parking will be available along the street through Sunday, May 15.

Starting the week of May 16, the contractor will mobilize and officially begin the project (weather permitting). They will install traffic control measures, and paint additional temporary parking spaces along Frank, Hazel, Bowers and other locations to be determined. The Police Department will remove parking meters now, but parking will remain available along the street until traffic control devices are in place. Traffic will be limited to southbound only through the jobsite between Hazel and Landon. Additionally, Hazel will be open for westbound traffic only between Woodward and S. Old Woodward. Frank will be open for eastbound traffic only from the CVS parking lot entrance to S. Old Woodward. Refer to the appended traffic detour map for additional clarification.

Underground Improvements

Pavement removals to allow installation of water main, sewers and a detention system will be installed. Access to local traffic will be maintained whenever possible through the southbound traffic detour. Access to parking on surface lots will be maintained as long as work isn't immediately occurring at the driveway location. Notice will be provided in advance of a driveway closure. All planned water main shutdowns will be scheduled and communicated in advance with as much notice as possible. The utilities are anticipated to be completed by the middle of September, 2022.

New sewer laterals will be installed in the Right of Way (ROW) for properties applicable to the project where they do not meet current standards. A small number of properties will have their undersized water service replaced. For those receiving an assessment, additional information has been provided in a separate notification.

During the underground phase of the project, access to surface lot driveways will generally be available, except when excavation is occurring in the immediate area of a driveway. When this is occurring, City staff, or the contractor's staff will be nearby to assist.

Temporary Water Service Interruptions Possible

During the water main construction, you may experience a temporary loss of water service. Generally, we will avoid shutdowns before 9 a.m. We will make every effort to notify businesses and residents by means of email, door tags, or door-knocking to speak to you directly. We will always try to give notice multiple days before a water service interruption occurs, except for emergency repairs where advance notification of water interruption may not always be feasible. During emergency outages, we will make every attempt to notify you if an outage is anticipated to extend beyond a reasonable time, i.e., two hours. We suggest you maintain a few gallons of water in reserve for consumption and cooking should this occur. Such storage should be replaced every few days for health reasons. After the water is turned back on, it may appear rusty due to disruptions in normal pressure and flow patterns. The rust is not a health issue but will discolor and/or stain laundry until it has been flushed out by running cold water.

Above Ground Improvements

Once all underground work is complete, the remainder of the street and drive approaches will be completely removed. A new concrete street will be installed, followed by new concrete drive approaches and sidewalks. After all concrete work is complete, the planters will be filled with trees and low level plants will be placed in areas between the sidewalk and curb. Restoration is expected to be completed by the end of October.

Driveway and Road Access

During the paving phase, anticipated in early September, access to parking lots and driveways will be limited. There will be approximately a one to two-week period during road preparation and paving when access to driveways on the west side of the road will be impossible. The City will work with the contractor to provide alternative parking measures during this time. The surface lot will be accessible once the driveway/road is strong enough to drive on. We will work with the contractor to schedule the drive approach installation as soon as possible after the road is paved so that the time you are restricted from using your driveway is kept to a minimum.

Parking

The City is having the contractor install additional spaces along Hazel, Frank and Bowers to help with parking during construction. The City is also working with property owners to provide additional surface parking for customers.

The City will also potentially allow parking on adjacent streets (where permits are typically required) when driveways are not accessible. If you have health or mobility limitations that make these conditions difficult, please contact our office at the number below so that special considerations can be made where necessary.

Right of Way Items to Be Removed

We encourage you to remove any private planters, benches, or other private items from the road Right of Way prior to **Monday, May 16. If items remain after May 16, the City will make one final attempt to contact the owner to have items moved from the ROW. If the items remain in the contractor's way after that time, the City will consider the items forfeited and they will be removed from the site. If the owner asks the City to have the Contractor move the items, the Contractor and City are not to be held accountable for the condition of the item being moved.**

More Information

Don't forget to **sign up for the S. Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 Constant Contact group at www.bhamgov.org/enews**. During construction, the City Inspector and contractor foreman will be on site to respond to your immediate concerns (i.e., dust, mud, entering and exiting streets and driveways). Most isolated instances are resolved by our "field" personnel. They should be dressed in an orange vest, or you may ask others on the job site for the inspector. For everyone's safety, do not enter an active construction area and do not approach construction workers without first getting their attention from a safe distance. Always maintain a social distance of six (6) feet or more and adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols. Should larger issues arise, feel free to call the Engineering Department at 248-530-1850. We appreciate your patience throughout this project.