

March 22, 2010

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Re: **2010 Infrastructure Project**
Keene, New Hampshire

Dear Property Owner / Tenant:

The City of Keene would like to update property owners along Washington Street, Washington Avenue, Gilsum Street, Taylor Street and Ellis Court (tentative) about the 2010 Infrastructure Project. Construction is expected to take place over two seasons beginning March 29, 2010. Work will progress this season thru November 2010 and next years construction season from April 2011 through November 2011.

Work areas include the following:

- Washington Street – Central Square to Washington Avenue
- Washington Avenue – Full Length
- Gilsum Street – Washington Street to Howard Street
- Taylor Street – Full Length
- Ellis Court – Washington Avenue to House # 50 (tentative)

In general, work to be completed includes water, sewer, drainage and gas system replacement, road reconstruction including granite curb, and the construction of new concrete sidewalks. The City would like to remind residents and highlight some of the following items as discussed in our previous notification letter dated January 11, 2010:

- Please note that all houses will be connected to a temporary water main during construction. (Except on Washington Street from Cross St to Washington Ave) Access to your cellar will be necessary for this connection. A representative from SUR Construction West, Inc. or the City will contact home owners to schedule this connection.
- The above listed work will cause some minor inconveniences at times. In order to construct the new utilities (water and sewer systems) there will be periods of times where a utility service will be interrupted. Proper advanced notification will be distributed 2 business days (48 hours) prior to any interruption of utility service. The City will work with the Contractor to ensure that these service interruptions are kept to a minimum. In the event of an un-scheduled interruption (i.e. water main break), the City will work to restore service as quick as possible.

- All work will generally be completed within the City's Right-of-Way. However, many properties will experience temporary construction impacts due to construction activities. Any impacted areas will be restored to their pre-construction conditions upon completion of the work. Care will be used to not impact existing hedge lines and retaining walls which abut the proposed work. The construction plans show work to be completed at each property and are available for reviewing at the Public Works Department.
- During work on Washington Street, only one direction of traffic will pass through the work site during work hours while the other direction is detoured. During construction on Taylor St, Washington Ave, Gilsum St and Ellis Ct (tentative) the roads will be closed, to thru traffic allowing local access only. At the end of each work day, traffic will be restored to two way travel on all streets. Signs will be erected to direct motorists through any detour routes.

During hours of operation, Mr. Brent Edmonds, a resident project representative from the City's engineering consultant, Underwood Engineers, Inc. will be on site overseeing the work being completed. The superintendent for SUR Construction West, Inc. will be Mr. Mike Edwards. Residents are encouraged to discuss any issues that may arise during construction with either of them.

It is anticipated that all work in the 2010 construction season will be on Washington Street and Taylor Street. This work will begin the week of March 29, 2010. Construction will begin on Washington St at Central Square and proceed northerly along Washington Street to Washington Avenue and then proceed to Taylor Street.

Work on Gilsum St, Washington Ave and Ellis Ct (tentative), the final paving and the majority of sidewalk construction on Washington and Taylor Streets will be in the spring / summer of 2011. A schedule for this work will be mailed in the spring of 2011.

The following is a general schedule of work on Washington and Taylor Streets:
Construction on Washington Street will be phased as follows.

Phase 1 – Washington St - Central Square to North of Spring Street:

Construction Schedule

- Major construction: March 29 – May 21, 2010. Installation of utilities, road construction, paving and granite curb installation.
- Minor construction: June – July, 2010. Sidewalks, loam and seed grass areas. **No detours for this work.**

Traffic Control / Detours

- North bound traffic detoured at Central Sq to Court St, northerly along Court St to Cross St, along Cross St to Washington St.
- South bound traffic will pass through the work site.

- Detours for this phase will not be in place until 8:00 A.M. to allow access to the Keene Middle School. (Except during school vacations) Access to the Middle School will be allowed from both directions from 2:00 P.M. to 2:45 P.M. (Except during school vacations)

Note: There will be a few occasions when this section will be closed to all thru traffic. Access will be maintained to local businesses.

Phase 2 – Washington St - North of Spring Street to north of Cross Street:

Construction Schedule

- Major construction: May 25 – June, 2010. Installation of utilities, road construction, paving and granite curb installation.
- Minor construction: July – August, 2010. Sidewalks, loam and seed grass areas. (This work may be delayed until spring, 2011. **No detours for this work.**)

Traffic Control / Detours

- South bound traffic will be detoured at High Street, along High St to Court St, southerly along Court Street to Central Sq
- North bound traffic will pass through the work site.

Phase 3A – Washington St - North of Cross Street to Gilsum Street:

Construction Schedule

- Major construction: July – Late August , 2010. Installation of utilities, road construction, paving and granite curb installation.
- Minor construction: September - October, 2010. Sidewalks, loam and seed grass areas. (This work may be delayed until spring, 2011. **No detours for this work.**)

Traffic Control / Detours

- South bound traffic will be detoured at Washington Ave, along Washington Ave to Gilsum St, briefly northerly on Gilsum St to Howard St, along Howard Street to Cross St, easterly on Cross St to Washington St.
- North bound traffic will pass through the work site
- Work near Franklin School work shall be suspended between the hours of 8:00 am – 8: 30 am and 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm when work area interferes with student drop off and pick up activity.

Phase 3B – Washington St - Gilsum Street to Washington Avenue

Construction Schedule

- Major construction: Late August - Early October, 2010. Installation of utilities, road construction, paving and granite curb installation.
- Minor construction: October - November, 2010. Sidewalks, loam and seed grass areas. (This work may be delayed until spring, 2011). **No detours for this work**

Traffic Control / Detours

- South bound traffic will be detoured at Washington Ave, along Washington Ave to Gilsum St, along Gilsum St to Washington St.
- North bound traffic will pass through the work site.

Taylor Street

Construction Schedule

- Major construction: October - November, 2010. Installation of utilities, road construction, paving and granite curb installation.
- Minor construction: April - May, 2011. Sidewalks, loam and seed grass areas.

Traffic Control / Detours

- Taylor Street will be closed, to thru traffic allowing local access only during working hours. At the end of each work day, the Street will be opened to thru traffic.

Please understand this schedule is subject to change, and will change due to weather and unexpected delays during construction.

Updates will be posted on a bi - weekly basis on the City's website at www.ci.keene.nh.us (Departments/Public Works/Construction Projects) outlining ongoing work and a tentative schedule and work zones for the upcoming weeks.

This is a significant project for the City and will, at times, cause inconveniences to the traveling public and abutting property owners. The City is taking measures to minimize issues and inconveniences, but your patience and cooperation during the project will be greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns. My direct line at the Public Works Department is 757-0679 or you may call the Public Works Office at 352 – 6550.

Sincerely,

Larry Crowder, Project Manager
Engineering Division
Keene Public Works Department

cc: Krt Blomquist, P.E., Public Works Director
Jim Donison, P.E., City Engineer
Underwood Engineers, Inc.