

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Q: What is the purpose of this project?

A: The purpose of this project is to carry surface water from Northeast Water Purification Plant (NEWPP) via a large diameter water line increasing the overall capacity of the region's drinking water.

Q: What is going to be replaced/installed in this project?

A: The project includes construction of 108-inch diameter water transmission line. This may also include appurtenances, such as fire hydrants, valves, fittings, and connections. The work may also include driveways, sidewalks, pavement replacement as well as localized storm sewer removal and replacement as required, utility relocations and tree protection.

SIDEWALK, TREES + LIGHTING

Q: Will the sidewalk be accessible?

A: No sidewalks will be impacted within the project limits.

Q: Is my driveway going to be torn up?

A: Driveways located within the water line easement may be removed to accommodate the water line construction but will be restored.

Q: Will Street Lights be removed and reinstalled?

A: Street lights along Morales Road will be relocated during construction. CenterPoint Energy will work to maintain street lighting while power poles are being relocated.

Q: How long is this project going to take to complete?

A: The Construction duration is 620 calendar days, which is approximately 21 months. Notice to proceed for the work is August 2020 and completion is scheduled for the end of Spring 2022.

Q: What are the construction work days?

A: The Contractor can work Monday-Saturday between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. There may be situations when the Contractor will be required to work outside of these hours in order to complete a connection on a utility, pour concrete, perform tunneling operations, or during an emergency.

Q: Will the Contractor be removing trees, irrigation, or landscaping in front of my business?

A: Outside of the City water line easement, the Contractor will not disturb existing trees. However, within the City water line easement, the Contractor has full access and utilization of the area as necessary to complete the work. The Contractor will be restoring the disturbed areas with grass upon completion of the project. If you have specific landscaping located within the City water line easement that you would like to save, we suggest you relocate it now.



Five Companies, LLC will be the contractor performing the work with the supervision of the City's Capital Projects Section and will be providing a tentative phasing schedule for the work. They will be making the necessary provisions to accommodate both vehicular and pedestrian traffic during construction.

Q: What trees are being removed?

A: Trees to be removed are identified on the Tree Protection Plan. The City of Houston and the contractor will make an effort to identify trees that can be preserved during construction on a case by case basis.

CONSTRUCTION

Q: Should I take photographs of my property before construction begins?

A: Yes, you should take photographs of your property before construction begins. The Contractor is required to take pre-construction photos of all properties prior to commencing work. If you perceive that your property may have been damaged during construction, you may report it to the City using the 311 System or by emailing buildforward@houstontx.gov. A City representative will meet with you and will compare your property to the pre-construction photos. The City will direct the Contractor to repair any damage caused by construction activities.

Q: Will water outage notices be provided to area residents and businesses?

A: No water service outages are anticipated. However, landowners and tenants within the area will be notified of a planned and unplanned water outage. The Contractor will place notices via a door hanger along the front door of each establishment. The landowners and tenants will be notified at a minimum of 24 hours in advance, and the Contractor will work to re-establish service as quickly as possible.

Q: Which areas will be impacted first?

A: The Contractor will develop a construction schedule to provide an estimated timeline for work to commence at each location. The water line may be constructed at different times requiring construction activities in your area to occur in phases.

Q: At some point, will I have issues accessing my driveway?

A: When it comes time for the new driveway / entryway to be poured, you will not be able to access it for approximately 7 days to allow the concrete to cure. Access to your property will always be maintained. Once construction begins in the area, the Contractor will give an advanced 4-week notice prior to beginning construction in the water line easement on your property. The Contractor will provide a minimum 24-hour notice in advance prior to removing your driveway / entryway.

Q: At some point, will I lose my water?

A: Utilities in some areas will be temporarily shut off to install a water line connection. This normally only takes a few hours unless the Contractor runs into an unforeseen issue. You will be notified a minimum of 24 hours in advance of any shut offs. There are times when the location of a utility line is not known, and the Contractor may hit it accidentally. In that case your water may be shut off for a period of time while repairs are made.

Q: At open pit locations, will the streets be closed in that area?

A: The Contractor will be required to follow a traffic control plan to maintain safe traffic flow around construction activities. This may include the use of road closures, detours, concrete barriers, signs, temporary traffic signals, etc. Proper safety measures will be taken by the Contractor in and around open pits.



WATER LINE EASEMENTS

For most of the properties in the area, the City of Houston water line easement will be 50-foot wide. Installation methods will be either by tunneling or open-trenching (also known as open-cut). Within these water line easements, the City and its contractors are granted full access for the purposes of water line construction. Once complete, the Contractor is required to restore the impacted area.

Q: Are they going to dig up the front area or just the street?

A: Construction work is primarily located within water line easements, with a few street crossings that will be restored as necessary.

Q: Is my street going to be torn up?

A: The construction will require the removal and replacement of some pavement along Frank Road. When work within Frank Road is required, the work will be phased to minimize the time that the street is impacted. Property owners will be provided access to their property wherever possible.

Q: How much equipment will be parked on my street?

A: Equipment and materials will be stored within water line easements. Access will be maintained within easements and public rights-of-way.

Q: What should business owners with sprinkler systems be prepared for?

A: We recommend that you take pictures of the sprinkler heads in the “on” position and be sure the pictures clearly show how many and the location of the sprinkler heads that you have in the right of way area near the street/curb. The construction company will make every effort to cap off sprinklers that will be torn up by the construction at the right of way line, with the intent to keep your sprinklers working in the rest of the yard. The pictures should resolve any questions when it comes time for the Contractor to repair them. It is entirely possible your system, or at least certain zones within your system may stop working once your yard is dug up as wires do occasionally get cut. Be sure to have a garden hose and traditional sprinklers ready to use during such periods.

RESTORATION

Q: How can the public feel comfortable that all restoration will occur properly?

A: Restoration of impacted properties, sprinkler systems, etc. will occur once construction is complete. Additionally, the City will not approve final payment to the contractor until it has completed their own assessment to ensure restoration is sufficient. If you have concerns, please call 311 and document those concerns so that they can be addressed at the end of the project. Do not make the repairs yourself! The Contractor will make them at the appropriate time during construction.

Q: What about landscaping near streets, sidewalks, and curbs?

A: If you have specific landscaping that you would like to be saved, we recommend you relocate it now. Only grass will be restored in areas upon completion of construction.

CONTACT INFORMATION

NON-EMERGENCY NEEDS

Dial 311 - Mention to the operator the following 3 things along with your issue:

- Project number: S-000900-0157-4
- Name of the project: 108-inch Water Line along City easements from Milner Road to Aldine Westfield
- Refer the complaint to the "Capital Projects".

EMERGENCY NEEDS

Contact Contractor's Superintendent or the 24-hour contact provided by the contractor.

Five Companies, LLC

Jeff Heflin, Project Manager
281.830.3052

Stantec, Inc.

Kevin Cruice, PMP, MBA, Construction Manager
832.731.7290

James Bishop, Sr. Inspector
713.557.1851

Houston Public Works

Ram Chakradhar, Project Manager
832.395.2073

HELPFUL LINKS

PROJECT SPECIFIC CONCERNS

Buildforward@houston.tx.gov

GENERAL CONCERNS

3-1-1 or 713.837.0311

www.houston311.org

WEBSITE

www.buildhoustonforward.org

For a complete listing of Frequently Asked Questions please visit:

<https://www.publicworks.houston.tx.gov/ecd/faqs.html>