

### GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

#### **Q: What is the purpose of this project?**

A: This project will carry surface water from one of the City's large diameter water lines to increase overall capacity in the regions drinking water.

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

A: The project includes construction of 48-inch, 16-inch, 12-inch and 8-inch water lines, as well as localized storm and sanitary sewer improvements. This will include upgrades to service lines, fire hydrants, valves, fittings, connections, and pavement that are in the City right-of-way. The work also includes sidewalks, street lighting, tree protection, storm water pollution prevention, and traffic control along Fuqua Street West Bound Lanes and Forbes Road.

### SIDEWALK, TREES + LIGHTING

#### **Q: Will the sidewalk be accessible?**

A: Yes, the contractor will maintain pedestrian access on one side of the street.

#### **Q: What trees are being removed?**

A: Trees to be removed are identified on the Tree Protection Plan. Diseased or dying trees will be removed. 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.

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

A: Construction duration is 592 calendar days, approximately 20 months. Notice to proceed was issued for January 11, 2021 and completion is scheduled for August 2021.

#### **Q: What are the construction work days?**

A: The Contractor will work Mon-Sat between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. There are situations when the contractor will work outside of these hours in order to complete a connection on a utility, pour concrete, or an emergency.

#### **Q: Why have various markers and protective barriers been placed around trees, etc.?**

A: Both the City of Houston and the contractor will take precaution to protect existing trees and property as best as they can. Additional right-of-way markers will be placed along the curb and sidewalk/driveway area, and removal of these may cause added delays and expense. Please do not remove these markers or any protective precautions.

#### **Q: Will there be Street Light Poles installed?**

A: Yes, street light poles will be installed by CenterPoint once the contractor installs all conduit and services.



SER Construction Partners, LLC will be the contractor performing the work with the supervision of Capital Projects and will be provided a tentative phasing schedule for the work. They will be making the necessary provisions to accommodate both vehicular and pedestrian traffic during construction.

## CONSTRUCTION

### **Q: Will updates be provided to area residents and businesses?**

A: The HOA president, property manager or representatives are invited to attend the monthly contractor status meetings that will allow them to provide periodic updates to the community.

### **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 3 days so that the concrete can cure. Most of the time neighbors share driveways while this part of the project is going on. Once construction begins on a street, the Contractor will give notice 72 hours in advance if they need to work on a specific driveway that fronts the street being constructed. Also, if the excavation on a driveway is required for any reason, you will receive notification from the Contractor a minimum of 24 hours in advance, prior to your driveway/entryway being removed.

### **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 or to transfer services. 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.

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

A: Both. The project will involve removing and replacing the full area from sidewalk to median, within the City right-of-way. Driveway reconstruction is planned beyond the right-of-way for some owners with very steep driveways, and these homeowners have been notified through right of entry letters from the City. If another need to access private property arises, the homeowner will be notified and asked to sign a right of entry.

**Q: What is being done to verify underground work is properly connected as there are concerns about drainage?**

A: The City's inspection team ensures the project is built to the design standards and meets all City codes and requirements.

**Q: Is my street going to be torn up?**

A: The construction will require replacement of the subject streets, accomplished by completing reconstruction of one side of the street. During this process, access to driveways will be maintained as best possible for personal access. On some days, you may be asked to park nearby, but this usually occurs on days that work is in front of, or blocking a given driveway at a given time. Naturally, weather will have some impacts on these occurrences. We suggest that you share your driveways with your neighbors, when possible.

**Q: How much equipment will be parked on my street and are there any off-site options?**

A: The Contractor may stage some materials along the project alignment; however, they will have offsite storage available and will utilize it when possible.

**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 sprinklers/heads that you have in the right of way area near the street/curb. The construction company will make the effort to cap off your sprinklers in the right of way that will be torn up 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 construction company to repair them. It is entirely possible your system or at least certain zones may stop working once your yard is dug up as wires do occasionally get clipped. Be sure to have a garden hose and traditional sprinklers ready to use during this period.

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

A: Landowners and tenants within the area will be notified of planned and unplanned water outages, if any. 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.

## CONSTRUCTION

### **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, sanitary sewer and storm sewer may be constructed at different times requiring construction activities on your street to occur in phases.

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

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



### **RIGHT OF WAY**

For most of the properties in the area, the City of Houston project right-of-way will extend about 2 to 5-feet into the property from back of curb. However, water line and appurtenances will utilize open excavation. As a result of this and related Capital Improvement Projects, the City and the contractors are granted full access into this right-of-way. Once complete, the Contractor is required to restore the impacted area of the grounds to City of Houston standards.

## RESTORATION

Restoration is being handled in two parts: the restoration of previously completed work and that of planned/ongoing construction. Issues with prior work should be submitted to HPW via comment card, email or phone to be addressed.

### **Q: How can the public feel comforted that all restoration will occur properly?**

A: Restoration of adjacent property, sprinkler systems, etc. will occur once construction is complete. Additionally, the City will not approve final payment to the contractor until they complete 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 French drains?**

A: We also recommend residents take pictures of any drains/PVC tubing that you have going to the sidewalk or to the curb, so you have evidence for replacement. During restoration, the construction company will replace drains to the curb and if your drain only went to the sidewalk, they are likely to extend it to the curb/street.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### NON-EMERGENCY NEEDS

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

- Project number: S-000900-0137-4
- Name of the project: 48-Inch water line along Fuqua and Forbes from Moers Road to Almeda-Genoa Road
- Refer the complaint to the "Capital Projects".

### EMERGENCY NEEDS

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

### SER Construction Partners, LLC.

Diego Martinez, Project Manager  
832.643.7419  
Otilio Garcia, Superintendent  
713.476.8193

### Project Surveillance, Inc./Sowells Consulting Engineers, LLC

Jerry Sowells, Construction Manager  
832.731.7290

### Department of Houston Public Works

Fedelis Oke Atatah, Project Manager  
832.395.2421

## HELPFUL LINKS

### PROJECT SPECIFIC CONCERNS

[Buildforward@houstontx.gov](mailto:Buildforward@houstontx.gov)

### GENERAL CONCERNS

3-1-1 or 713.837.0311

[www.houston311.org](http://www.houston311.org)

### WEBSITE

[www.buildhoustonforward.org](http://www.buildhoustonforward.org)

For a complete listing of Frequently Asked Questions please visit:

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