

# Freemason Area Water and Sewer Project Open House Meeting Minutes

08/25/08 Downtown Norfolk Council Conference Room

Attendees: See attached attendee list.

## Presentation Overview

- Kristen Lentz (Director of Norfolk Department of Utilities)- Introduction and project purpose
- David Leas (Clancy & Theys) – Project Overview
  - Parking Garage- 90% complete
    - September 2- open to YMCA
- Oteran Stewart (Cox Communications) - Project Overview
  - Relocate overhead cables to sidewalk
    - Minimal disruption
- Bill Mifflin (Dominion Virginia Power)- Project Overview
  - Relocating all underground power sources to accommodate construction with Light Rail
  - Will be in Manhole on Bute Street next week; rearranging cables
- Dale Skidgell (Verizon) - Project Overview
  - Temporarily wrapping up construction on Bute Street this week
- Ken Turner (Engineering Manager, Norfolk Department of Utilities)- Project Overview/ Update
  - Broken lights/fixtures on the 200 block of Bute Street have been fixed
  - Christmas lights on York Street garage have been addressed
  - Contacted City Forrester in reference to pruning trees on 200 block of Bute Street. Will see if City Forrester can move area up in schedule.
  - Department of Utilities is adding ADA handicap ramps as an enhancement to the Freemason Area
- Andrew Northcutt (Management Analyst, Norfolk Department of Utilities)- Website overview

## Discussion

- YMCA expressed concerns with knowing lane closures to communicate access to parking garage to members.
- Water and Sewer Construction on Bute Street between Yarmouth Street and Dunmore Street will occur after January 1, 2009
  - Although the 200 block of Bute Street has re-opened; Freda Burns (City Right of Way Coordinator) advised their may be single lane closures due to other private contractors..
- Suggestion to ensure strategic signage plan is put into action to ensure patrons turning off of Brambleton Avenue and Boush Street are aware of construction, detours and proper parking.
- Omar Boukhriss (Omar's Carriage House) voiced concerns with access to parking lot and notification of upcoming construction.

- Private utility companies and contractors were notified to be respectful to local businesses and residence with parking matters.
  - Contractors are encouraged to bus in workers to minimize on site parking.
  - Vehicles will be removed and ticketed if they are inappropriately parked.
- YMCA expressed desire to keep Bute Street open in January to accommodate their busiest time of year.