

Freemason Area Water and Sewer Project Open House Meeting Minutes

11/24/08 Downtown Norfolk Council Conference Room

Attendees: See attached attendee list.

Presentation Overview

- Andrew Northcutt (Management Analyst, Norfolk Department of Utilities)
 - Introduction and project purpose
 - Handout overview (See attachment)
 - Agenda
 - Meeting Minutes
- David Speer (Civil Engineer V, Norfolk Department of Utilities)
 - Project Overview/ Update
 - New map overview
 - Areas that are shaded black have completed the water & sewer pipe work
 - Areas shaded yellow are currently under construction
 - Project Update
 - Construction on Bute Street is underway, continuing to work west down the 300 block.
 - Have permission from Jim O'Brien and Omar to proceed across their driveways Monday and Tuesday.
 - Construction will affect lunch business access these days; Omar says to proceed to help speed construction up directly in front of him.
 - Access to the YMCA's flat lot is via Dunmore Street during construction on the 300 block of Bute Street.
 - Dunmore Street and the 300 Block of York Street traffic pattern has been reversed; now moving north on Dunmore and west on York Street to allow temporary access to the YMCA's flat lot during construction.
 - Installing water main on the 400 block of West York Street
 - Upon completion of the water main construction, sewer installation will follow
 - Construction will be on West York and the 300 block of Bute Street simultaneously. Upon the completion of York Street, crews will move to Dunmore Street in order to connect both ends of construction
 - Construction crews will shut down for the Holiday Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, returning to work Monday, December 1.
 - Norfolk Utilities will provide York Street garage parking passes to residents and business that are directly impacted by construction as necessary.

- Freda Burns (Right-of-Way Coordinator)
 - Closure update
 - The Duke Street/Bute Street closure that was planned has been postponed due to the holidays.
 - The Virginia Dominion Power construction was relocated to Charlotte Street in collaboration with a current closure.
 - The center lane on St. Paul's Blvd. has re-opened.
 - Light Rail has a 10 day, two lane closure on Brambleton Avenue by the I-264 interstate near Norfolk State University December 12-22. Norfolk Utilities will have a two lane closure southbound on St. Paul's Blvd at that same time.
 - Due to numerous lane closures and detours in Downtown Norfolk, Right-of-Way is developing a plan to maintain access during this these times of construction.
 - The Police Department is coordinating with the Smart Traffic Center to assist with traffic issues.
 - The Police Department has limited control due to traffic signal timing.
- Paul Filion (Light Rail Project Coordinator)
 - Light Rail matrix update
 - Skanska is mobilizing crews and equipment at the East Creek Bridge
 - Freemason construction for Light Rail is upcoming
 - A representative is planning on visiting affected business/residents.
 - Coordinating with Linda Davis concerning the Amtrak bus stop relocation.
 - The Kirn Library demolition contract is still pending.

Discussion

- Question concerning the on street parking on Dunmore Street and York Street.
 - All current parking conditions will remain the same, just with a reversed flow of traffic.
- Suggestion due to the need of reversing traffic flow on Dunmore/York Street to allow access to the YMCA side lot to keep York Street as previously stood and turn Dunmore into a two way street.
 - Kristen Lentz said we would refer suggestion to the Department of Transportation
- Upon construction on Dunmore, John Sires has made accommodations for Dunmore Street tenants.
- Question concerning parking accommodations to those affected on the 400 block of York Street.
 - Norfolk Utilities offers validation to businesses/residents directly effected by our construction at the York Street Garage
- Suggestion to expand the Freemason Open House Meeting into a Downtown Construction Open House meeting.