



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS
20025 Mack Plaza Drive
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236-2397

March 23, 2023

RE: Vernier Road Water Main Replacement

Dear Resident:

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods has awarded the contract to Fontana Construction, Inc. to replace the water mains on Vernier Road from Mack Avenue to the west city limit. The exact start date is unknown at this time. However, work is tentatively expected to begin after mid-April, but subject to change due to seasonal limitations. Weather permitting, the project is expected to take up to 6 weeks on each side of Vernier Road.

Water Main Replacement

In an effort to minimize the disturbance to existing lawns, driveways, sidewalks, and street, the new water main will be installed by trenchless methods known as pipe bursting. This consists of bursting through the existing pipe with new HDPE pipe. The contractor will excavate pipe insertion and pipe retrieval pits. The new HDPE water main will be assembled above ground, before being pulled into place. During construction, the existing water main will not be in service due to the pipe bursting operation. In order to maintain the water service to residents, the contractor will create a temporary water main above ground that runs along the gutter or sidewalk. This temporary water main will be connected to the homes via the existing service line or an existing hose spigot. Depending on the locations of existing service lines and existing valves, some driveway approaches, sidewalks and trees may require removal and replacement.

In order to make final connections to the existing water mains, there will be temporary interruptions in water service. Interruptions in water service are expected to last for up to several hours. Advance notice will be provided prior to any planned interruptions to water service.

Fire hydrants may be exercised during construction. Discolored water is common when fire hydrants are exercised. There may be times where you notice discolored water. The discoloration is caused by natural sediments and is not harmful. To clear discolored water in your home, run the cold water from your lowest elevation plumbing fixture such as a basement laundry tub until the water becomes clear. This process usual takes a few minutes.

The road will be available to traffic throughout the construction, however reliable access to the road may be intermittent during construction hours. Please refrain from parking on the street within the work area.

Tree Removals

In order to excavate to depths and locations necessary for reconnecting water services, installing valves, or installing hydrants, there may be severe impacts to existing trees or their root systems. Consequently, a number of trees will require removal to facilitate construction of the new water main, services, valves, and hydrants. New trees will be replaced as part of the project.

Prior to Work Beginning

You will likely see green dots along the street. These are used to call out existing cracks in nearby sidewalks and driveways prior to the contractor completing a video survey of the construction area.

Prior to work beginning, we ask that you flag or identify any sprinkler heads or lines that may be located between the sidewalk and roadway. While the contractor will try to work around the sprinkler systems, they can often become damaged during construction and will be repaired.

There will be an informational meeting for residents on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Center at City Hall. I will conduct the meeting and there will be representatives present from the city's engineering firm Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick (AEW) and Fontana Construction to answer any questions you may have.

Construction observation will be performed by Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc (AEW). Questions regarding construction operations should be directed to their attention at (586) 726-1234. Please direct any other questions to the Department of Public Works (313) 343-2460.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Jim Kowalski
Director of Public Services

cc: AEW