

**Northside & River District Lead Replacement and Infrastructure
Virtual Community Construction Meeting
Monday, October 5, 6 p.m.**

Attendance:

Three

Key Fort Worth Staff:

Leon Wilson, senior professional engineer and project manager

- 817-392-2387
- Leon.Wilson@FortWorthTexas.gov

Jesse Reed, inspector

- 817-392-8362
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Laura Wilson, P.E., deputy water director, Water Capital Delivery

Tony Sholola, P.E., assistant water director, Water Capital Delivery

John Kasavich, P.E., engineering manager, Water Capital Delivery

Sally Ellertson, project communications, Water Capital Delivery

Translator: Brenda Pinner

Engineering design consultant:

Brent E. Lewis and Mark Camacho - RLG (Raymond L. Goodson Jr. Inc.)

Construction contractor:

Danny McCutchen, Jackson Construction

City Council

District 2 Councilmember Carlos Flores

District Director Maira Gallegos

- 817-392-8802; District2@FortWorthTexas.gov

District 7 Councilmember Dennis Shingleton

District Director Sami Roop

817-392-8807; District 7@FortWorthTexas.gov

Due to COVID-19 we regret that we could not host an in-person community construction meeting.

This project is also known as Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Contract 2019, WSM-C and City Project Number 102170.

Summary

Water mains and one sewer main will be rehabilitated and, all City-owned lead services will be replaced, via this north Fort Worth capital improvement project. The area is bound by Azle Avenue at Robinson Street (Fire Station #15) to the north, Columbus Avenue to the east, Scott Road to the south and Athenia Drive to the west.

This project will impact customers in the North Side, River District and Crestwood neighborhood associations as well as the Westside Alliance, Inter-District 2 Alliance and Far Greater Northside Historical Alliance.

Affected area:

The affected streets include:

- NW 27th Street from West Long Avenue to Robinson Street (water/sewer);
- Azle Avenue from Macie Avenue to Robinson Street (water);
- Columbus Avenue from NW 20th Street to NW 22nd Street (water);
- Loving Avenue from NW 26th Street to NW 28th Street (water);
- Westwood Avenue from Sherwood Avenue to Edgefield Road (water/sewer);
- Sunset Lane from Athenia Drive to Scott Road (water/sewer).

Questions

What part of the water line is made of lead? This project is to replace the City-owned lead service lines in the prescribed area. The City side of the line starts at the main in the middle of the street and goes to the customer's meter. The customer's side of the service goes from the meter to the house and includes all plumbing inside the house.

How were customers notified? Customers received a mailer inviting them to the October 5 WebEx community construction meeting and a letter (see an excerpt below) advising them about the City-owned lead service lines.

The City-owned part of the service line on your property at (insert address) is lead. The city will be replacing the service line, meter, and meter box and patching the street cut as part of the Northside & River District Lead Replacement and Infrastructure Improvements project. Fort Worth Water is hosting a virtual community meeting on Monday, October 5, at 6 p.m. You will receive a mailer this week with instructions on how to participate. Construction is expected to start in October.

The service line connects your home to the water main. Ownership of the service line is shared. The city owns the portion from the main to the meter, including the meter. The property owner is responsible for the portion from the meter to the house, plus the private plumbing inside the home. We will have more information at the meeting to explain the ownership.

Your side of the service line is galvanized. It is possible that other plumbing materials – pipe, solder or brass fittings or fixtures – inside this property may contain lead. You may need to hire a plumber to determine if there are lead plumbing materials in the home.

The water department is offering a FREE test to determine the lead levels in your drinking water. We will explain how lead gets into drinking water and low-cost steps to minimize exposure for the short term. The only long-term solution is to replace all lead plumbing components. Additional information is on our website at www.fortworthtexas.gov/water/lead.

The board members of the six neighborhood associations and alliances were invited via WebEx in the event that the board members fielded questions. Not all board members live in the project area and would not have received a mailer or lead letter. Neighborhood engagement and the neighborhood patrol officers were also invited to the meeting and received the invite and maps of the project.

How do you determine that a service line is lead? The Field Operations crews and Meter Services crews do what is called a scratch test of the pipe to determine if the material is lead. Those impacted directly by the removal of City-owned lead service lines were notified by letter in October 2019 and September 2020. To learn more about lead in drinking water please go to <http://fortworthtexas.gov/water/lead/> on the City of Fort Worth website.

How large are these lines? Most of the water lines in this project date back to the 1940s and are 6-inch cast iron. Those will be upgraded to 8-inch diameter lines. The new lines will be placed a minimum of 9-feet apart from the existing sewer lines.

Are these new water lines going to be able to support the apartment developments in the River District area? Developers of apartment complexes have to do a water study to determine what size line is required to support their project.

Is the street going to be closed during construction? If we use the open cut method, customers will see an open trench that is three-four feet wide in the middle of the street. The trench will be covered when the crews are not working on the line. Customers will have access to their homes with minimal disruption to access.

Are you going to replace the sewer lines at the same time? Water and sewer lines are being replaced on three street segments - NW 27th Street, Sunset Lane, and

Westwood Avenue— in this project. Fort Worth Water studied the condition of the sewer lines on the other street segments and determined that there is no need to replace them at this time.

Am I getting a new water meter? Yes, the City has been installing new advanced water meters in construction and development projects for the past few years. To learn more about the new water meters please go to the My H2O frequently asked questions at <http://fortworthtexas.gov/myh2o/faqs/> on the City of Fort Worth website.

When our street is under construction, will our water be turned off? The water will be turned off briefly (15-30 minutes) when the water service is transferred from the existing line to a temporary water line, then again when the service is transferred from the temporary water line to the new water line.

Will our sewer service be disrupted? Sewer service will not be interrupted. New sewer cleanouts will be installed at the property line. The purpose of a sewer cleanout is to provide crews easy access to the sewer line if a backup or blockage is discovered.

Will the construction affect my irrigation? The only street that will be getting additional curb, gutter, sidewalks and ramps is NW 27th Street so irrigation in the area of the new curbs, sidewalks or ramps could potentially be affected. The contractor will cap any irrigation lines. If it is capped we will replace it in the same condition.

Can I expect to find dirt/silt entering into my water lines as the result of this project? No, there should be no dirt, silt or contaminant entering the water system.

Will my street be resurfaced after the lines are replaced? Yes. The streets will be resurfaced. During construction we will have temporary asphalt. If the street is asphalt we will have a final asphalt surface done. There may be some intersections that are concrete so we will replace that with concrete. Asphalt is replaced with asphalt and concrete is replaced with concrete.

Will curbs have to be cut to replace the lines? Yes, where we replace sanitary sewer those curbs will be cut. With the water replacement lines, depending on where the meter is, there will be curb cuts. If the curb is concrete it will be replaced with concrete.

Can you estimate the duration of the project on Westwood Avenue (one block), start to finish? Not yet. We don't have a detailed schedule from the contractor yet. When we get that we will share it with everybody.

Do you know when construction will start? Construction is expected to start in October 2020 and finish by December 2021, barring any delays. A representative from Jackson Construction will put out 7-day door hangers and one-day (tomorrow) door hangers on the homes of everyone before work starts on their street.