

From: Winter, Molly
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 5:13 PM
To: Sean
Cc: Council; Herring, Ashlee; Matthews, Kurt; Cowern, Bill; Stafford, Edward; Wiltshire, Brian; Westhusin, Stephany; Rait, Maureen; Winfree, Tracy; Landrith, Lane; Driskell, David; Brautigam, Jane; Winter, Molly
Subject: FW: West End Action Steps
Attachments: West End Action Steps.pdf

Dear Sean:

Thank you for the list of concerns about the West Pearl Streetscape project. We remain committed to managing and minimizing the impacts of the construction. There are several specialty subcontractors involved including irrigation, landscaping and masonry and various streetscape elements to be fabricated and installed, all in a limited amount of space. As the construction project progresses farther to the west, the footprint of the re-construction area is even more constrained. We have identified some areas to open up in the near term to allow temporary use of the space and minimize the construction barricades until all of the streetscape items can be installed at one time. Specific responses to the DBI requested "West End Streetscape Action Steps" are listed below as well as updates on other construction mitigation items including banner installation and loading zone management.

1. The fabrication of the stone benches has taken longer than anticipated, and as a result delayed finishing the northwest corner of 11th and Pearl. To allow for the use of this area and to remove the construction barricades, this week we will pour concrete as a temporary surface to fill in the hole at this corner and at the 10th and Pearl north-east and south side intersection corners. This surface will be in place until the stone work, brick work and bench installation can be finished all at once. This will allow us to remove all of the cones/barricades, etc. in these areas in the interim until we can finish the urban design elements at one time, more efficiently. There is also additional utility work being completed on the north side of Pearl near 11th that is related to the private development construction at the Pearl West site. Construction difficulties have delayed the work [until the 2nd](#) week of July.
2. We are generally restricting the contractor to work in one area at a time. The areas have been defined as follows -11th to 10th – just east of the intersection, 10th Street intersection (all 4 corners) from Centro north to the alley, 10th –west of the intersection to 9th, and 9th Street to 7th Street. The intersection at 10th Street is considered one phase as much of the work underground connects from one side to the other or to the middle of the intersection. This advance intersection underground work has to be completed before the sidewalk, stone, brick and benches can be installed. Because of the need to maintain access to businesses at all times, the contractor was required to phase the work to keep this access open so not all underground work can be done at the same time in all corners of the intersection. As an example, if they close one crosswalk they have to keep the other side's open for pedestrians. The contractor had underground work to do under both crosswalks, but they couldn't do both of them at the same time.

The advance work at the southwest corner of 9th and Pearl was signal pole installation work that was completed under a different contract that needed to be completed in advance of the Pearl Street

streetscape contractor starting their work. We will remove some of the traffic control barrels that are causing this corner to look cluttered and keep enough devices in place to maintain a safe work space.

3. Construction materials will be consolidated as much as possible and personal vehicles have been moved out of the business parking on Pearl Street and 10th Street south of the alley. Equipment will be parked north of the alley starting Friday afternoon for the weekend. We started this Friday, June 20th. We will also work with the contractor to move as much larger equipment out of the area in the evenings during the week as possible.

4. As mentioned above, we are working to move equipment out of the area when possible. We have also reiterated the importance to the contractor to clean up the site, consolidate materials, remove trash/debris from the work site, and generally keep the work site looking clean. We will discuss the possibility of extra workers with the contractor. However, the amount of work that can be accomplished is more a function of the construction phasing limitations (refer to item 2 above), material requirements and sequencing, such as allowing the concrete to cure before forms are removed, more so than the number of available workers. To minimize impacts to businesses during the busier times of the day, the contractor starts work early with a goal of being finished by mid-afternoon, so it is not unusual to see limited work and workers later in the day.

5. Modifications will be made to the project when possible, requiring the use of change orders (refer to the temporary sidewalk in item 1 above), to improve conditions.

Regarding the request for a banner at the end of the Pearl Street Mall at 11th Street, the city is working with DBI on the final design and installation method to ensure compliance with structural requirements and city regulations. Installation will be dependent on the fabrication schedule. The city is ready to facilitate the process. Regarding the temporary loading zone on Pearl Street, the city has considered all the variety of factors and based on observation of use and safety concerns, has determined that the loading zone can be reduced in size to create more customer parking. Because the alley is closed due to the Pearl West Project until the end of July, staff cannot limit the on-street loading zone to Monday through Friday while the alley is closed. When the alley opens up, the change can be made. The public safety issues are too paramount to create a situation where vehicles enter the alley and then back out into 9th Street. When the alley opens up, the loading zone can be changed to Monday through Friday which is projected for the end of the July.

We will continue to take steps that minimize the impacts of the city's construction activities on businesses. The monthly construction coordination meetings continue; the next meeting will be held on July 11th at 8:30am at Brasserie 1010 on Pearl Street and we invite all West End businesses to attend. We appreciate the patience of all involved as we work to complete a project that will enhance the West End as well as the role that DBI has played in facilitating communications and being proactive in exploring construction mitigation approaches. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Stephany Westhusin, Department of Public Works, Transportation

Molly Winter, Downtown and University Hill Management Division and Parking Services