



## **CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON**

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[www.mercergov.org](http://www.mercergov.org)

### **Frequently Asked Questions 2020 Water System Improvements Project**

#### **What is the 2020 Water System Improvements project?**

- The 2020 Water System Improvements Project is a water main replacement project. Construction will begin in mid-June 2020. The contractor will:
  - Replace and upsize approximately 1,400 linear feet of water main
  - Replace approximately 34 water services and 8 fire hydrants
  - Replace and install 180 linear feet of stormwater piping and 6 catch basins
  - Complete property and pavement restoration work

#### **Why does this work need to be done?**

- The City of Mercer Island's water system is evaluated on a regular basis to ensure the infrastructure remains in good condition and has adequate capacity to provide water to customers. The water mains in your neighborhood are undersized and aging rapidly.
- There is an upcoming King County Sewer project that overlaps a portion of our project area. Constructing this project ahead of the King County project may result in cost savings for the City on roadway restoration. This is only in the Fruitland Landing neighborhood.

#### **How much will this project cost?**

- The construction contract for this project is \$705,841.

#### **How is this project being funded?**

- This project is funded mostly by water utility rates. A small portion is funded by Street Fund.

#### **Where will construction take place? (Map: [www.mercergov.org/files/Water\\_System\\_Construction\\_2020.pdf](http://www.mercergov.org/files/Water_System_Construction_2020.pdf))**

- The work will take place on
  - SE 34<sup>th</sup> St, 96<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, and 97<sup>th</sup> Ave SE (near Fruitland Landing)
  - 87<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, from SE 42<sup>nd</sup> to SE 44<sup>th</sup> St (adjacent to St. Monica School)

#### **When does construction begin? When will it end?**

- Construction will begin in mid-June and is expected to take approximately 15 weeks to complete.

#### **Who will be doing this work?**

- On May 5, 2020 at the teleconferencing Council Meeting, the Mercer Island City Council awarded the construction contract to Oceanside Construction, a licensed and bonded contractor from Bellingham, Washington.

#### **How will I be affected by this project?**

- Area residents will be impacted by disruptions to your water supply and road closures. There will be 4 scheduled water main shutdowns during the construction for the contractor to make water main

connections. Two of the shutdowns are at the Fruitland Landing neighborhood and two at the St. Monica School neighborhood.

In addition, when your water service is switched from the old water main to the new water main, 2 to 3 hours of individual service disruption is expected. Advanced notice will be provided to affected residents.

- Partial street closures are expected. Our contractor will try to keep at least one lane open at all times.

#### **How will I be notified of water shutoffs?**

- For scheduled water main shutdowns, the City will send you a notification postcard the week before the shutdown. Also, the contractor will put a door hanger at your front door the day before the shutdown.
- For water service shutoffs (service switch-over), the contractor will put a door hanger at your front door the day before the work is to take place. They will also knock on your door before the water is turned off.

#### **Will you be replacing my water meter?**

- Water meters older than 10 years will be replaced. All service lines connecting water meters to the water main will be replaced.

#### **During what hours will crews work? Will they work weekends?**

- Construction activities are allowed between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm, Monday to Friday. Oceanside's proposed schedule is four 10-hour weeks, Monday to Thursday from 7am to 5pm.

#### **How will my mail be delivered? Garbage picked up? Will this project change our school bus pickup?**

- Your mail delivery and garbage pickup should not be impacted. If a full street closure is required, we will work around garbage pickup days to avoid interference. We will also coordinate directly with Mercer Island School District to make sure there is no disruption to school bus service.

#### **I'm planning to have construction done at my home. What do I need to do to coordinate schedules?**

- Let us know about your plans *now*, and we'll do our best to work around the construction at your house. It's especially important to let us know if you have large building material deliveries or need access for concrete trucks at your home at any time during this project.

#### **I'm having a large event at my house during the construction period. How can I eliminate conflicts?**

- Communication is very important; let us know *now* if you have plans and we'll do our best to work around your special event.

#### **Do I need to do anything special to my irrigation system/pool/hot tub/etc. during this period?**

- No, nothing special is needed but feel free to call us if you have particular concerns.
- On the day of water main shutdown and service disruptions, avoid using/draining water from your hot water tank in order to avoid potential damage if the tank keeps heating.

#### **Will this work disrupt my landscaping?**

- It could. While we will do what we can to minimize disturbance to your property the contractor may need to dig a small trench through your yard to replace your water service. Displaced lawn will be replaced with the original turf or reseeded if needed. If you have any concerns about special plants or landscaping that might be impacted, particularly plants near the meter box, let us know *now*.

**What are my responsibilities?**

- Let us know *now* if you have irrigation lines or invisible fencing, particularly if they are located near the meter box. Also, keep everyone safe by keeping kids and pets away from the construction zones.

**Who can I contact about this project?**

- At any point during the duration of the project, you may contact Rona Lin, P.E., Utilities Engineer, at (206) 275-7806 or via email at [rona.lin@mercergov.org](mailto:rona.lin@mercergov.org).