

EDGEWOOD AVENUE NEAR SURFACE COLLECTOR

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY IS A SEWER BEING CONSTRUCTED?

Major rainfall events of July 2010 caused widespread flooding across the Milwaukee area. Hundreds of homes in the Village of Shorewood experienced surface or basement flooding.

The new sewer will increase the capacity of the MMSD sewer system and the local sewer system. In times of high flow, excess water will flow from the existing sewer system into the new pipe and then to the Deep Tunnel.

WHERE IS THE SEWER BEING CONSTRUCTED?

The sewer will be constructed in Edgewood Avenue from Maryland Avenue to an existing MMSD sewer west of the Oak Leaf Trail.

WHY IS MMSD BUILDING THIS SEWER?

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is funding and constructing the Edgewood Avenue sewer because the sewer takes flows from both the Village of Shorewood and the City of Milwaukee. Whenever there are sewer flows from more than one municipality, the sewer is owned and maintained by MMSD. The sewer is being constructed entirely within the Village of Shorewood.

HOW IS THE SEWER BEING CONSTRUCTED?

The 72-inch sewer is being constructed using micro-tunneling trenchless construction methods. Micro-tunneling uses a boring machine to dig a tunnel underground. The pipe is installed as the boring machine removes soil. The process requires two shafts from the surface to install the sewer. One shaft is called the launching shaft where the tunnel boring machine begins digging the tunnel. The second shaft at the end is called a receiving shaft where the tunnel boring machine is removed.

The Edgewood launching shaft is located in River Park. The Edgewood sewer has two receiving shafts, one west of the Oak Leaf Trail and one at Maryland Avenue. There is also a fourth shaft at Murray Avenue for a manhole to connect the existing sewer to the new sewer.

WHY WAS TUNNELING CHOSEN FOR THIS SEWER?

Tunneling allows for construction of a large diameter sewer with less surface disturbance and inconvenience to residents. Tunneling also costs less than comparable open cut construction methods.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION?

Tunneling is an underground operation and most of the construction activity is at the launching shaft. While you may not see contractors actively working at the receiving shafts, the tunnel boring machine is moving underground towards the receiving shafts. The receiving shafts had to be constructed before

the tunnel boring machine began tunneling to provide a place to remove the tunnel boring machine when the sewer is complete.

The contractor, Super Excavators, started tunneling to the area west of the Oak Leaf Trail first. Once the tunneling machine reaches the Oak Leaf trail receiving shaft, the tunneling boring machine will be removed from the shaft. The contractor will then connect the new sewer to the existing sewer.

The second tunneling step of the construction process will be to tunnel from the River Park launching shaft east to the Maryland Avenue receiving shaft. The tunneling process is anticipated to be complete in fall of 2022.

Once the tunneling is complete, the contractor will build concrete manholes at each of the shaft locations.

When the concrete manholes are complete, the restoration phase begins. The contractor will restore the roadways at Murray Avenue and Maryland Avenue and the parking lot at River Park. Any sidewalks, curb and gutter, and asphalt damaged by the construction will be replaced. In the area west of the Oak Leaf Trail trees and native plantings are included in the restoration. The timing of the restoration is weather dependent. Final permanent restoration may not occur until Spring 2023.

Green Infrastructure improvements are also planned for River Park restoration. A bio-swale will be installed in the area south of the batting cages in River Park. This green infrastructure will be installed with the restoration phase of the project.

I RECEIVED A LETTER ABOUT BASEMENT INSPECTIONS, IS IT LEGITIMATE?

Yes, KSingh & Associates is a member of the construction team working with MMSD to inspect basements adjacent to the tunneling operations. If you are interested in having your basement inspected, please call Bridget Henk at 414-225-2229. Inspections are free to the homeowners.

HOW LONG WILL THE ROADS BE CLOSED?

The roads will be closed as needed to complete construction. It is anticipated that the roads will be closed through Spring 2023 pending construction progress and weather conditions.

WILL EDGEWOOD AVENUE BE REPAVED?

All Edgewood Avenue will not be repaved as part of the sewer project. Only the pavement disturbed by shaft construction at the intersections at Murray Avenue and Maryland Avenue will be repaved as part of the project.

WILL THE BASEBALL FIELDS STILL BE OPEN?

Yes. The fields are open, but the parking lot will be closed through Spring 2023.

CAN I USE THE OAK LEAF TRAIL?

Yes. The trail will be open throughout construction. Construction flaggers will direct traffic whenever the contractor needs to cross the trail. A trail counter will be installed in the trail near the Providence Avenue intersection as part of the project.

WHY DOES MY WATER KEEP GETTING TURNED OFF?

An existing Shorewood watermain needed to be moved for the installation of the receiving shafts. To move the watermain the water needed to be turned off.

Unfortunately, there was also a watermain break in the vicinity of the project in May. The water needed to be turned off again to facilitate the unplanned watermain repair. This watermain break was not within the Edgewood project limits, however, the District contractor worked with the Village to make the repair because they had equipment and personnel in the area that could quickly respond and complete work in a short period of time.

It is anticipated that there will be one more water shut off in the restoration phase to finish the watermain relocation. Advance notice will be provided to the affected residences and businesses 24-48 hours prior to the water shutoff.