



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NEWS

July 28, 2016

CITY NEWS

Cedar Rapids seeking Input on Collins Road Pedestrian Improvements

The public is invited to attend an open house on July 28 and share feedback on pedestrian improvements and streetscaping opportunities on Collins Road. Residents can leave feedback during the open house on Thursday, July 28, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Kirkwood Training and Outreach Center (3375 Armar Dr, Marion, IA). Open house format, residents can come and go at their convenience. Public input is being sought on Collins Road between Twixt Town Road and Northland Avenue. Future improvements in this area include added roadway capacity to reduce congestion, new pavement, and adding enhanced pedestrian accommodations such as pathways and sidewalks. Public feedback will help inform potential streetscape aesthetics and opportunities to improve pedestrian connectivity.

Share Input on Housing Market Study via Open House and Online Survey

The City of Marion is conducting a comprehensive housing market study and community members are invited to participate in the process. This effort will help decision makers, stakeholders, and community members develop a meaningful understanding of the housing market in Marion, as well as an understanding of key housing issues. There's still an opportunity to weigh in via an online survey. Take the short community housing survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/MarionHousing. It will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, July 29.

Hotel/Motel Grants Awarded to 15 Area Projects/Organizations

The City of Marion collects a 7 percent room tax on overnight stays at hotels and motels in the community. Each year, the funds are then redistributed through a grant application process to organizations that work to increase tourism in Marion. City staff, City Council representatives, and citizens review the applications, determine recommended funding allocations, and make a recommendation to the council for use of the funds.

In June, Marion City Council awarded over \$171,000 to 15 area projects/organizations. Those awarded funding for the 2016-2017 fiscal year include:

- Bike Racks for Marion
- Giving Tree Theater: Live Theatrical 2016/17 Production Support
- GO Cedar Rapids: Tourism Promotion
- Granger House Museum

- Greater Cedar Rapids Open: Professional Golf Tournament
- Marion Arts Council: Picnic on the Prairie Fall Concert
- Marion Arts Festival: 2017
- Marion Chamber of Commerce: Tourism & Community Development
- Marion Historical Society, Preserving Marion's Heritage
- Marion Metro Kiwanis: 7th Annual BBQ Rendezvous
- Marion Parks & Recreation: Family Entertainment Nights at Lowe Park
- Marion Parks & Recreation: Community Movie Night
- Red Cedar Chamber Music: String Chamber Music for Marion
- Swamp Fox Festival: 2016
- Uptown Marion, a Main Street Iowa District: Uptown Marion Marketing & Promotions

Take Part in National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

This year, National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, August 2. If your neighborhood typically hosts a gathering during this time in Marion, register with the national organization and the local law enforcement personnel will stop by to say hello! <https://natw.org/about>

In addition, the Marion Police Department is partnering with the Marion Fire Department and Marion Parks & Recreation to organize a community-wide event to mark the occasion from 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Park on August 2. Enjoy K9 demonstrations, police and fire equipment on display, games, activities and prizes. Make plans now to attend!

*The complete **Annual Engineering Work Program and Map**, with estimated construction schedules, separated by project type, can be found at www.cityofmarion.org.*

2016 PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

35th Street / 29th Avenue Mini Roundabout Project – Eastern Iowa Excavating, \$255,366
Funding Source: LOST & Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) grant funding.

Project Overview: The construction of a mini roundabout to replace the existing 2-way stop condition. This project includes installing concrete pavement, sidewalks, curbs and street lighting to complete a mini roundabout at the intersection of 35th Street and 29th Avenue.

Progress Updates: The contractor is finishing up punch list items and is waiting on the arrival of the cabinet riser. Once everything is complete the project will go to City Council for consideration of acceptance.

The contractor has used approximately 39 of the 45 working days provided; 98% of the contract has been completed.

Alburnett Road Extension Project - \$1,300,000 (Concept Study – Snyder & Associates, \$248,950.00)

Funding Source: LOST funding; project funding is not intended to provide for the construction of the bridge over Indian Creek.

Project Overview: The funding was proposed to complete several early phases of the project, including the concept study, design and possible right-of-way acquisitions from Boyson Road to 7th Avenue. Council has reaffirmed the need for the realignment due to traffic volumes on Central Avenue and 10th Street. City Council awarded a contract to Snyder & Associates regarding the concept study on June 23, 2016 in an amount of \$248,950.00.

Progress Updates: Snyder & Associates has collected all borings except 5-6 bores located at or near the bridge. Once the bridge type, size and location have been determined, they will finish the remaining borings. Traffic counts were wrapped up on Wednesday July, 20 at various intersections along 7th Avenue, 2nd Street, and Boyson Road. Work will continue on and off throughout the summer.



An open house will be held regarding the concept study once information and data has been collected and preliminary design decisions have been made.

2015 Alburnett Road Widening Project - Rathje Construction Co., \$189,587

Funding Source: Miscellaneous Street Repair funding.

Project Overview: The widening of Alburnett Road between 29th Avenue and East Robins Road to provide for a dedicated left turn lane.

Progress Updates: City Council will consider accepting the project at their August 8, 2016 meeting.



The contractor has used 47 of the 50 working days provided.

Central Corridor Complete Streets and Capacity Improvements

(Roundabout at 7th Ave & 7th St) - Ricklefs Excavating, LTD, \$2,871,607

Funding Source: Bond Funding and a grant from the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program.

Project Overview: Complete reconstruction of the 7th Street and 7th Avenue intersection which will include a four-legged roundabout. The project will be broken into 7 stages.

Progress Updates: The project is currently in Stage 4. Pouring back of the parking lot west of Country Kitchen has begun. They continue to work on the water main on 8th Street along with the installation of sidewalks.

The contractor has used approximately 63.5 of 120 working days provided; 33% of the contract has been completed.



Central Corridor Project (26th Street to 31st Street) – Abode Construction

Funding Source: This is a joint public/private project.

Project Overview: The project includes the partial construction of the Central Corridor Project between 13th and 31st Streets by Abode Construction, including the roundabout near the old Marion Iron site connecting 6th Avenue to 7th Avenue. The roundabout will be constructed as a part of Phase 2 with five separate stages.



Progress Updates: Paving continues this week on the roundabout legs as weather permits.

The project will be constructed in stages with some lane closures and localized congestion when building the roundabout.

The 7th Avenue portion will be constructed once all temporary construction easements and property acquisitions are complete.

Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer. The contractor has completed 13% of the Phase 2 contract.



Fairview Drive Reconstruction - Rathje Construction Co., \$537,400

Funding Source: Miscellaneous Street Repair funding.

Project Overview: The project includes the reconstruction Fairview Drive from S. 8th Street to S. 11th Street of the existing pavement, driveways, storm sewer, sub drain, water main and other associated work.



Progress Updates: The contractor has started removing concrete and soil subgrade, placing drain-tile, geogrid, and granular subbase. This allows for the area at the end of the day left disturbed to be minimized, providing access to as many residents as possible.

The contractor has used approximately 32 of 70 working days provided; 27% of the contract has been completed. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$500 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule. Complete closures of these blocks will occur to provide for storm sewer installation and complete pavement reconstruction.

ImaginArt in the Alleys Project - Central States Concrete, LLC, \$343,468.15

Funding Sources: ArtPlace America Grant - \$350,000; City bond funds - \$315,000; public/private donations approximately - \$175,000.

Project Overview: Infrastructure improvements to the alleys between 10th & 11th Streets and 7th & 8th Avenues. The project includes the installation of: new paving, lighting, drainage systems, art, and aesthetic enhancements.



Progress Updates: The contractor continues to install conduit for the underground electrical system.

The contractor has completed 19% of the contract. The project shall be completed no later than October 23, 2016. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$1,500 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.

Lindale Crossing at Lindale Drive Project - Trey Electric Corporation, \$16,769

Funding Source: Capital Improvement Project-Single funding.

Project Overview: Includes the addition of signage and rapid flashing beacons where the trail crosses Lindale Drive.

Progress Updates: City Council accepted the project at their July 21, 2016 meeting.

2016 Lowe Park Parking Lot Project - L.L. Pelling Company, Inc., \$671,415.65

Funding Source: LOST funding

Project Overview: This includes the extension of Irish Drive into Lowe Park, along with the construction of two parking lots and adjacent trails.

Progress Updates: Pipe work may begin this week or the following week if the site dries out.



The contractor has used approximately 9.5 of the 50 working days provided; 13% of the contract has been completed. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of these schedules.

2016 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Project - Rathje Construction Company, \$44,470

Funding Source: The 2016 Sanitary Sewer Repair Program has a budget of \$240,000. This is broken down into two separate projects due to the differences in the types of projects and the contractors that would bid these types of projects.

Project Overview: The project involves the removal of two brick manholes and the placement of four new manholes and associated work. This is to help provide better access and maintenance to the existing sanitary sewer network. The manholes are located on 9th Street at 6½ Avenue and 7½ Avenue and 9½ Street at 7th Avenue and 7½ Avenue.



Progress Updates: City Council will consider accepting the project at their August 8, 2016 meeting. The contractor has used 24.5 of the 25 working days provided.

2016 Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining Project – Visu-Sewer, Inc. , \$137,303

Funding Source: The 2016 Sanitary Sewer Repair Program has a budget of \$240,000. This is being broken down into two separate projects due to the differences in the types of projects and the contractors that would bid these types of projects.

Project Overview: This project, using Sanitary Sewer funding, will include the cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) sewer lining of approximately 6,123 LF of 8-inch diameter pipe. Locations are as follows:

- 5th Street, north of 29th Avenue
- 26th Street, south of 17th Avenue
- 17th Avenue, from 26th Street to 27th Street
- 18th Avenue, 27th Street to 31st Street



- 26th Street, from 4th Avenue to 5th Avenue
- 4th Avenue, from 26th Street to 31st Street
- 27th Street, from 10th Avenue to 11th Avenue
- 27th Street, from 12th Avenue to 14th Avenue
- 28th Street, from 10th Avenue to 12th Avenue
- 30th Street, from 11th Avenue to 12th Avenue
- 12th Avenue, from 30th Street to 31st Street

Progress Updates: The contractor started prep work on Monday, July 25. Work shall be completed no later than Sept. 25, 2016. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.

Some lane closures and localized congestion are expected during construction.

2016 Sidewalk Inspection Program

Project Overview: Every two years the Engineering Interns walk the sidewalks, marking those that do not meet City of Marion standards with pink paint. This year they have walked the northern portion of Marion, approximately McGowan Blvd and north. This is done to help ensure that our city sidewalks are user friendly and safe for citizens.



Progress Updates: Our interns have completed the inspections for this year. Notices went out to 186 property owners that were cited for sidewalk violations and explaining what repair is required. Approximately 31% of the violations have been repaired.

Tower Terrace Road Project – Phase V – Mooney-Engle Land Company, \$1,517,642

Funding Source: This is a joint public/private project.

Project Overview: The project includes the extension of Tower Terrace Road east from the 10th Street intersection to the new location of Winslow Road, west of Indian Creek. The construction will extend the typical cross section of the divided street with grass median, decorative lights, and trees. The project will also include the completion of the signalization of the 10th Street and Tower Terrace Road intersection.



Progress Updates: The site has been wet the past few weeks, once it dries out the contractor will continue to mass grade the site. They have started lowering the grade to match the future bridge approach. Grading is expected to take a few more weeks to complete.

Construction activities are anticipated to have limited impact to traffic.

Waldo's Rock Park Parking Lot - \$150,000

Funding Source: REAP grant awarded to the Marion Parks & Recreation Department

Project Overview: In June 2015 Waldo Morris donated 7.4 acres of land near Partners Avenue and 62nd Street to the City to be used as a city park. The park will feature a glacial erratic boulder formation, which will serve as the center of the park. The park will include a trail loop and a fishing pier. An access road and parking lot will be constructed off of Partners Avenue. The project also includes a trail head connection to the Grant Wood Trail, pavilion, and trees and prairie grasses. The project is expected to be completed in 2017.



Progress Updates: The access road is in place (not open to the public at this time) and grading of the park has started. The Parks & Recreation Department is overseeing the project.

Winslow Road Realignment Project - Mooney-Engle Land Company, \$1,070,411

Funding Source: Joint public/private project

Project Overview: This includes the relocation of Winslow Road from south of Settlers Drive to Tower Terrace Road. The new alignment will go through Bridge Creek Fourth Addition. The realignment will have a typical cross section of a collector street with trail on one side and sidewalk on the other.



Progress Updates: Once all of the street signage has arrived and been installed, the new realignment of Winslow Road will be opened to Winslow Road.

The realignment will connect into the Tower Terrace Road Phase V Project before the project is complete.

Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer. Paving of the realigned Winslow Road has been completed just past the existing Winslow Road.

2016 GENERAL PROJECTS UPDATES

2016 35th Street Water Main Relay Project – Phase 1 - Rathje Construction Co., \$69,850

Funding Source: Funded and administrated by the Marion Water Department.

Project Overview: This includes 630 linear feet of new 12-inch water main to be installed from the intersection of 3rd Avenue and 35th Street to 160 35th Street, replacing the existing 8-inch water main.

Progress Updates: The preconstruction meeting was held and it was discussed that the anticipated start date will be middle of August.

Work shall be completed by September 9, 2016. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each day in excess of the specified completion date.

Armar Drive Extension Project - \$400,000

Project Overview: The project will extend Armar Drive from the existing south end (in Cedar Rapids) to Highway 100. The intersection at Highway 100 has already been constructed and signalized with ARRA Funds.

Progress Updates: A meeting was held July 15, 2016 with the owner and negotiations continue.



Boyson Road and 10th Street Traffic Study - \$60,000

Funding Source: LOST funding

Project Overview: This study will evaluate the need for improvements at the Boyson Road and 10th Street intersection. It is expected that the intersection of Indian Creek Road and 10th Street will also need to be included due to its proximity to the study area.

Traffic volumes, accident rates, congestion levels, and visibility will be studied prior to the selection of a traffic device to solve any related issues. Separate funding will be needed to complete any recommended changes.

2016 Lowe Park Lighting Project – Trey Electric Corporation, \$79,173

Funding Source: LOST funding

Project Overview: This project includes the installation of 6 street lights, 5 dual parking lights, 18 trail bollards, footings, electrical systems, and miscellaneous related work and appurtenances in accordance with the contract documents.

Progress Updates: Work cannot start on this project until the 2016 Lowe Park Parking Lot



Project is complete; however, work shall begin no later than April 30, 2017 and be completed within 25 working days. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$100 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of these schedules.

2016 Miscellaneous Sidewalk Assessment Project – Borst Bros. Construction, Inc. \$128,445
Funding Source: Annual program using Capital Improvement Project funds

Project Overview: This annual program provides for the construction of sidewalks in areas where no sidewalk currently exists. Below are the locations that will receive sidewalk as a part of this program per the State process for assessment along with their approximate starting dates:

- 27th Street (West Side) From 10th to 12th Avenue [**approx. 8.29.16 – 9.16.16**]
- Grand Avenue (South Side) South 15th Street to 420' west [**approx. 8.8.16 – 8.26.16**]
- Barrington Parkway (North Side) west of 10th Street [**approx. 8.22.16 – 9.2.16**]
- East Post Road (West Side) Oakbrook Drive to 1040 Grand Avenue [**approx. 8.8.16 – 8.26.16**]

Progress Updates: A preconstruction meeting was held on July 26, 2016. The contractor plans to start work on August 8, 2016.

There are 40 working days allocated to this project. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of the schedule.

SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT

Staff provides inspection for the development of all subdivisions and commercial sites within the city limits. This work begins with construction plan review and includes field quality control for storm and sanitary sewers, drain tile, Portland cement concrete maturity, grade, air content, slump (water content) and pavement thickness. The City has adopted the latest version of SUDAS (Statewide Design Standards) and utilizes these standards for all subdivision construction.

Subdivision Residential

Authors 4th Addition - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: East side 35th Street

The preconstruction meeting was held and work is planned to begin soon.

Bedford Heights – Pirc Tobin Construction

Location: West of Alburnett Road / south of Echo Hill Road

Paving has begun.

Bowman Meadows 4th Addition – Rathje, E & F

Location: South of Boson Road, west of Alburnett Road

The preconstruction meeting was held and work is planned to begin soon.

Bowman Woods Unit 37 - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: south of East Robins Road, west of Alburnett Road

Work is on hold. They plan on paving next year.

Bridge Creek 4th Addition - Ricklefs Excavating, City Wide

Location: Winslow Road south of Rolling Glen Drive Storm

See Winslow Road Realignment.

Echo Ridge Estates 1st Addition - Pirc Tobin

Location: west side of Alburnett Road, north of Echo Hill Road
Work to start soon.

Edgebrooke Estates North 1st Addition – Rathje Construction, E & F

Location: extension of Edgebrooke Drive to Vaughn Drive and White Oak Drive to Edgebrooke Drive.
Water main installed.

Gemstone Estates 3rd Addition – Rathje Construction, E & F
Paving

Location: extension of Gemstone Drive and connection to Tower Terrace Road via Lennon Lane.
Half of the subgrade was proof rolled.

Prairie Hill 17th Addition –

Location: extensions of 50th Street and Prairie Hill Drive, and 28th Avenue.

A preconstruction meeting has not been held yet.

Prairie Ridge Estates 7th Addition – Ricklefs, City Wide

Location: East of Hwy 13 and north of E. Kacena Ave, extension of Crestwood Lane.

A preconstruction meeting has not been held yet.

Squaw Creek Meadows 7th Addition – Rathje Construction, E & F

Location: Alexis Lane extension south of Grand Avenue and west of 31st Street
City Council accepted the subdivision on July 7.



Commercial Sites

Capital Commercial (1204 7th Ave)

Construction is on hold.

Integrity Homes Commercial Condos (591 62nd St)

Site work nearly completed. Final stabilization will occur in the spring.

Marion Public Services Site (3rd Ave)

No additional review was done. Prelim plans have been reviewed in the past.

Legacy Site Plan (650 Partners Ave)

Temporary occupancy has been given to the shipping office and warehouse only.

El Plast Site Plan (Partners Ave)

Site stabilization and punch list items remain.

Linn COOP Expansion (3rd Ave)

Building Department has issued a temporary occupancy certificate.

Platinum Multi-Family (Prairie Hill Drive)

Second 12-plex nearly completed. First 5-plex is well under way.

Linn Mar High School Remodel (10th St)

Site under construction.

Moose Properties (44th St)

Construction has started on the proposed “middle” building.

Croell Redi-Mix (49th St)

Site under construction.

Hills Bank (3204 7th Ave)

Site under construction.

Hotchkiss Commercial Property (1286 Blairs Ferry Rd)

Building construction continues on Building C; Buildings A & B have been given temporary occupancy.

Electric Specialty Manufacturing (6451 Partners Ave)

Site under construction.

Arctic Insulation Specialists (Partners Ave)

Site plan reviewed and approved. Site work has not started.

Platinum Multi-use (29th Ave / Prairie Hill Dr)

Site plan reviewed and comments sent back to Consultant.

Blairs Ferry Senior Housing (830 Blairs Ferry Rd)

Building is under construction.

Arbor Trails Senior Housing (1362 Blairs Ferry Rd)

Building is under construction.

MISD – Longfellow Elementary Demo (2900 8th Ave)

The site is being graded at this time.

APC Emmeret Site Plan (3rd Ave)

Building construction has started.

KTRO Storage Units (4150 3rd Ave)

Site is under construction.

Dunkin Donuts (584 7th Ave)

Site is under construction.

Platinum Warehouse (102 35th Street)

Building construction has started.

Lebeda Mattress Factory (2525 7th Ave)

Site is under construction.

MISD-Longfellow Elem (2900 8th Ave)

Site is under construction.

Parks/Schmidt Stonefield (901 Tower Terrace Rd)

Plans are being reviewed.



TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

As the chairman of the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) it is the City Engineer’s responsibility to coordinate citizen requests regarding traffic concerns and possible changes in signage or traffic regulations. The TAC is comprised of the City Engineer, City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Planning Director, and the Public Services Director. The committee meets when necessary and able to evaluate the requests and make a recommendation to City Council whether the request warrants mitigation. Requests are only accepted in written form (letter or email) and directed to the Mayor and City Council. The City Council then decides if the request is only for information or requires evaluation and referral to the TAC. If review is necessary Council will, by motion, receive and file the item and refer it to TAC.

The TAC evaluates the requests based on several criteria including the following:

- Traffic counts, speed, vehicle type, and overall volumes provided by staff and traffic data collectors,
- Vehicle and pedestrian accident rates provided by the Police Department,
- Site visibility and stopping distances based on engineering standards,
- Emergency vehicle, snow removal, and garbage pickup accessibility,

- General public use verses individual owner needs,
- Input by the requestor and the public.

TAC then uses the criteria to discuss, evaluate, and provide a recommendation to City Council at a regular Council Meeting. The requestor is notified of the date that the report recommendation will be presented and provided a time to address City Council regarding the request. Once Council has acted on the request notice is sent to the requestor and appropriate action is taken by staff.

- **At this time TAC has not received any requests to review.**

UPCOMING COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- **On August 4, 2016 City Council will consider:**
 - **amending Section 69.06 – 13 of the Code of Ordinances establishing parking regulations regarding length of reservation spaces within the Incorporated Limits of the City (Final Consideration).**
 - **accepting the 2015 Alburnett Road Widening Project.**
 - **accepting the 2016 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Repair Project.**

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- **On July 21, 2016 City Council:**
 - **approved amending Section 69.06 – 13 of the Code of Ordinances establishing parking regulations regarding length of reservation spaces within the Incorporated Limits of the City (Second Consideration).**
 - **accepted the 2016 Lindale Trail Crossing at Lindale Drive Project.**
 - **amended the original motion and directed staff to prepare an encroachment agreement associated with the request for use and improvements at 3501 29th Avenue (Ken and Karen Swalley, 3500 28th Avenue).**

These are not comprehensive lists of items that City Council will consider taking action on or has taken action on; for a comprehensive list please refer to the upcoming City Council agenda, which can be found at www.cityofmarion.org.

We continue to build an email list, so please forward addresses to me of those wishing to receive this information. Feel free to forward to anyone with interest.

If you have additional questions regarding ongoing projects please address them to my email and I will add them to future reports.

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