

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NEWS

September 30, 2016

### CITY NEWS

#### Ways to Help Flood-Impacted Communities

The City of Marion continues to offer its support and concern to neighboring cities impacted by the flood of 2016. The Cedar River crested in Cedar Rapids at 22 feet on Sept. 27 and many await the river's slow return to its banks.

Volunteers will be needed to help with flood clean up. Individuals and groups can sign up by visiting [www.uweci.org](http://www.uweci.org). In addition, the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation has established [Flood Fund 2016](#). Funds will be allocated to area nonprofits whose efforts actively assist flood-impacted households and urgent community needs.

For continued updates on flood efforts and recovery visit [www.cedar-rapids.org](http://www.cedar-rapids.org).

#### Enjoy Shopping and Sweet Treats during Chocolate Walk

Don't miss this sweet night of shopping in Uptown Marion! The annual Chocolate Walk will be Friday, October 7 from 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. Grab a friend and enjoy your favorite spot or discover a new store.

Enter for a chance to win one of two \$100 gift certificates to participating Uptown Marion businesses by presenting a receipt at the welcome booth located at 7th Ave and 11th St. Live entertainment throughout the district by: Billylee Janey, John Shultz, Billy Heller and Mark Brown.

Visit [marioncc.org](http://marioncc.org) for a complete list of participating businesses. Chocolate Walk is sponsored by Marion Chamber Platinum Community Partners - Farmers State Bank, Fosters Heating and Air Conditioning, ImOn Communications, MercyCare Physicians-Marion and Townsquare Media.



### **Charter Amendment to Appear on Nov. 8 Ballot**

The Nov. 8 election ballot will ask Marion residents to determine if the existing Home Rule Charter should be amended so that ward council representatives are elected by the residents of the specific wards, rather than by all Marion residents, as is the present case.

Council members vote on issues that affect the entire community. A "Yes" vote supports changing the charter so that only residents of a specific ward elect their ward representative. A "No" vote supports keeping the existing system in place where all residents have an opportunity to cast a ballot for all council representatives.

View the ballot language and additional election information at [www.cityofmarion.org](http://www.cityofmarion.org). Then make your way to the polls on Nov. 8.

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*The complete **Annual Engineering Work Program and Map**, with estimated construction schedules, separated by project type, can be found at [www.cityofmarion.org](http://www.cityofmarion.org).*

## **2016 PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**Alburnett Road Extension Project** - \$1,300,000 (Concept Study – Snyder & Associates, \$248,950)

**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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Council has reaffirmed the need for the realignment due to traffic volumes on Central Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> 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:** The City has received the Wetland Delineation Report, Phase 1 – Archaeological Survey, and Phase 1- Architectural History Survey. The field investigation for the architectural survey included 50 individual properties being evaluated. Out of those properties evaluated, seven contained resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; two of those properties are within the proposed boundaries of the extension project.



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

## Central Corridor Complete Streets and Capacity Improvements

(Roundabout at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave & 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection which will include a four-legged roundabout. The project will be broken into 7 stages.



**Progress Updates:** Eastbound traffic has been shifted to the south side of the roundabout with the westbound traffic staying on the north side. This change is a hybrid of Stages 5 and 6. This shift in traffic allows for paving operations to continue in Stages 5 and 6 while utility work is being performed per Stage 7.

Rock is in place on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street and is ready to be poured back. The parking lots of Country Kitchen and Zio Johnno's are waiting to have parking stalls painted.

With this stage of the project the following streets will continue to be closed:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Street: between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue: between west of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and east of 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street
- Intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Street entrance of Country Kitchen

The contractor has used approximately 100 of 120 working days provided; 67% of the contract has been completed.

## Central Corridor Project (26<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Streets by Abode Construction, including the roundabout near the old Marion Iron site connecting 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The roundabout will be constructed as a part of Phase 2 with five separate stages.

**Progress Updates:** Stage 2 is wrapping up as the last mainline pour has been completed. Sidewalks are being poured on the south side of the project. The Contractor is planning on combining Stages 3 and 4 to help the project stay on schedule.



Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer. The contractor has completed 47% of the Phase II contract.

We encourage people to use 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to access those businesses within the construction area as it is difficult to make left hand turns during peak hours. At this time, left hand turns are not permitted at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 31<sup>st</sup> Street.

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

**Funding Source:** Miscellaneous Street Repair funding.

**Project Overview:** The project includes the reconstruction of Fairview Drive from S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street to S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Progress Updates:** The contractor is working on backfilling, grading, and pouring sidewalks. A few of the properties have trees that are either in conflict with or effected by the project and staff is in the process of having tree removal agreements signed by the property owners. A company has been hired to remove the trees once the agreements have been signed. The City's arborist met on site with Engineering staff and the Contractor to evaluate the trees in question. The trees recommended for removal will have lost the integrity of their root system due to the installation of the sidewalk.



The contractor has used approximately 64 of 70 working days provided; 96% 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.

**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 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Streets and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues. The project includes the installation of: new paving, lighting, drainage systems, art, and aesthetic enhancements.

**Progress Updates:** Pouring will be completed for the north/south and east/west alleys by the end of this week. The project will be wrapping up in the upcoming weeks.

The contractor has completed 52% 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.



## 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:** Drain tile has been installed to help dry out a portion of the site. Due to the rain and wet conditions, the grade needs to be touched-up. Paving is anticipated to occur early next week.

Three extra working days were added to the project per a change order. The contractor has used approximately 32.5 of the 53 working days provided; 50% 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 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:

- 27<sup>th</sup> Street (West Side) From 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue [**Completed**]
- Grand Avenue (South Side) South 15<sup>th</sup> Street to 420' west [**Completed**]
- Barrington Parkway (North Side) west of 10<sup>th</sup> Street [**Completed**]
- East Post Road (West Side) Oakbrook Drive to 1040 Grand Avenue [**Completed**]



**Progress Updates:** The contractor is finishing up seeding and punchlist items. City Council will consider accepting the project at their October 6, 2016 meeting.

The contractor has used approximately 26 of the 40 working days provided; 98% 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 the schedule.

## 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:** Certified letters will be sent to those properties that have not yet repaired their sidewalk violation. Approximately 83% 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Tower Terrace Road intersection.



**Progress Updates:** Tower Terrace Road is paved up to the intersection with the new alignment of Winslow Road. Once the intersection is paved, the 8' wide multi-use side paths will be installed.

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 62<sup>nd</sup> 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.



**Progress Updates:** Grading and asphalt surfacing of the parking lot and roadway entrance along with the trail loop around the pond have been completed. They have also started constructing the pavilion. Within the next few weeks, pond restoration and deepening will begin. The projected is expected to be completed and opened to the public in 2017.



**Progress Updates:** The contractor is finishing items that are within Stage D. Stage C is rocked and is ready to be trimmed. After that the road can be poured back.

The contractor has used approximately 36 of the 135 working days provided; 16% of the contract has been completed. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$750 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of the schedule.



## 2016 GENERAL PROJECTS UPDATES

**2016 35<sup>th</sup> 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 contractor is planning on starting work mid-October.

A change order was submitted for additional work, the new completed by date is now November 23, 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:** Review of the owner's appraisal is complete and the City will not be making any further offer for voluntary purchase. The City's Attorney has advised that we move forward with condemnation proceedings.



**Boyson Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Street Traffic Study** - \$60,000

**Funding Source:** LOST funding

**Project Overview:** This study will evaluate the need for improvements at the Boyson Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Street intersection. It is expected that the intersection of Indian Creek Road and 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **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 4<sup>th</sup> Addition** - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving  
Location: East side 35th Street  
Sanitary sewer is being installed.

**Bedford Heights** – Pirc Tobin Construction  
Location: West of Alburnett Road / south of Echo Hill Road  
Punch list items remain.

**Bowman Meadows 4<sup>th</sup> Addition** – Rathje, E & F  
Location: South of Boson Road, west of Alburnett Road  
Subgrade proof roll was completed, subbase rock is being installed. Paving next.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> Addition** - Ricklefs Excavating, City Wide  
Location: Winslow Road south of Rolling Glen Drive Storm  
See Winslow Road Realignment.

**Downing Farm 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition** –  
Location: Kettering Road extension, west of Alburnett Road  
and north of East Robins Road.



Plans have been submitted and comments have been sent back to the consultant.

**Echo Ridge Estates 1<sup>st</sup> Addition** - Pirc Tobin

Location: west side of Alburnett Road, north of Echo Hill Road

Sanitary sewer is being installed.

**Edgebrooke Estates North 1<sup>st</sup> Addition** – Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

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

Punch list is being created and will be sent to Rathje.

**Gemstone Estates 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition** – Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: extension of Gemstone Drive and connection to Tower Terrace Road via Lennon Lane.

Punch list items have been sent to Rathje.

**Prairie Hill 17<sup>th</sup> Addition** –

Location: extensions of 50<sup>th</sup> Street and Prairie Hill Drive, and 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Plans approved. A preconstruction meeting has not been held yet.

**Prairie Ridge Estates 7<sup>th</sup> Addition** – Ricklefs, City Wide

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

Storm sewer is nearly completed. Water service is being installed.

**Prairie Trail 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition** – Rathje, E&F

Location: Oak Park Trail and Prairie Trail extensions on west side of Alburnett Road.

Plans have been submitted and comments are back to Hall & Hall.

## Commercial Sites

**APC Emmeret Site Plan (4155 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave)**

A final occupancy certificate has been issued.

**Arbor Trails Senior Housing (1362 Blairs Ferry Rd)**

Building is under construction.

**Arctic Insulation Specialists (Partners Ave)**

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

**Blairs Ferry Senior Housing (830 Blairs Ferry Rd)**

Building is under construction.

**Capital Commercial (1204 7<sup>th</sup> Ave)**

The current building permit has expired. It is unknown at this time when reconstruction will begin.

**Croell Redi-Mix (600 49<sup>th</sup> St)**

Site under construction.

**Electric Specialty Manufacturing (6451 Partners Ave)**

A temporary occupancy certificate has been issued.

**El Plast Site Plan (Partners Ave)**

Site stabilization and punch list items remain.

**Hills Bank (3204 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Integrity Homes Commercial Condos (591 62<sup>nd</sup> St)**

Site work nearly completed.

**Former Irwin's Building (1180 7<sup>th</sup> Ave)**

Plans have been approved.

**Lebeda Mattress Factory (2525 7<sup>th</sup> Ave)**

Site is under construction, the exterior brick and interior framing has been completed.

**Legacy Site Plan (6509 Partners Ave)**

Temporary occupancy certificate has been issued.

**Linn COOP Expansion (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave)**

Building Department has issued a temporary occupancy certificate.

**Linn Mar High School Remodel (10<sup>th</sup> St)**

Site under construction.

**MISD-Longfellow Elem (2900 8<sup>th</sup> Ave)**

Site is in the beginning stages of construction.

**Marion Public Services Site (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave)**

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

**Moose Properties (44<sup>th</sup> St)**

Construction has started on the proposed "middle" building.

**Parks/Schmidt Stonefield (901 Tower Terrace Rd)**

Plans have been approved and foundation work has begun.

**Platinum Multi-Family (Prairie Hill Drive)**

Construction of the site continues.

**Platinum Multi-use (29<sup>th</sup> Ave / Prairie Hill Dr)**

Site plan reviewed and comments sent back to Consultant.

**Platinum Warehouse (102 35<sup>th</sup> Street)**

Building construction has started.

## 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 October 6, 2016 City Council will consider:**
  - **accepting the 2016 Sidewalk Assessment Project.**
  - **receive and file and refer to TAC correspondence regarding street signage on Lucore Road and Tower Terrace Road.**
  - **approving temporary construction easements related to the 2016 Fairview Drive Reconstruction Project.**

## PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- **On September 22, 2016 City Council:**
  - **directed staff to solicit engineering services for the Indian Creek and Dry Run Creek Sanitary Sewer Capacity Improvements (Segments 7 and 11).**

*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](http://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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