

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NEWS

October 28, 2016

### CITY NEWS

#### **Trick-or-Treat in Marion on Oct. 31**

Princesses, superheroes, ghosts and goblins are invited to include a stop at Marion City Hall in their Halloween plans. The City of Marion will host a trick-or-treat event at City Hall (1225 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue) from 3-5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 31, 2016. Children can dress up in their Halloween costumes and collect candy and other treats from staff on both floors at Marion City Hall.

Marion Public Library (1095 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue) is also welcoming trick-or-treaters on Monday, Oct. 31 between 6-8:45 p.m. Families are welcome to trick-or-treat at the service desks, read a scary story, or show off their fancy costumes. All ages are welcome.

Community-wide trick-or-treating in Marion takes place on Halloween. There are no set hours. Residents should turn on their porch lights when they are ready to greet trick-or-treaters and turn

#### **Yard Waste Drop-off Facility now open Sundays**

Now that the leaves are falling, the Marion Yard Waste Drop-off Facility has extended its hours of operation. The facility, located at 195 35<sup>th</sup> Street, will be open Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. through November. The final date will be determined based on weather. [hours of operation](#)

#### **Whitlow Named Iowa APWA Leader of the Year**

Dan Whitlow (center), city engineer for the City of Marion, was named Leader of the Year by the Iowa chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA). He was honored for his leadership and contributions to the chapter in 2015 when he served as its president. He is pictured with Scott Grayson, national executive director for APWA, and Dave McDermott, Iowa chapter president. The award was presented on Sept. 29.



### **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 Environmental Report, including the wetland delineation, Archaeological Investigation and the Architectural Historical Survey, are complete. Also, the traffic analysis of proposed Alburnett Road and associated intersections is complete. Some utility location work is still in process north of Indian Creek so survey crews will be in the area. Design evaluation and modeling of Indian Creek continues and a bridge alignment and designs are being considered.



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:** Currently Stages 5 and 6 are underway. Last week more of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue was paved and they finished up the concrete along 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. All of the bases and conduit have been set for the lights. They also continued to pour sidewalks and ramps per Stage 5. Some of the project has been temporarily seeded, street signs are being placed, pavement painting is occurring.

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 120 of 120 working days provided; 94% 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:** On Monday, October 17, 2016 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue westbound traffic was shifted onto the new pavement of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to allow for Stage 4 to begin. Work on the water main has been underway and will continue for 2-3 more weeks; then a hybrid of Stages 3 and 4 occur.

Access to businesses will be maintained, but will be a granular surface once the old 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue is removed. It is recommended to use 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to access the businesses.

Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer. The contractor has completed 66% of the Phase II contract.



**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:** All of the trees that were either in conflict with or effected by the project have been removed and the stumps have been ground down. The remaining sidewalks, topsoil, hydro-seed and signage have been completed. A punchlist item is being complied. Once everything on the punchlist has been taken care of, the City Council will consider accepting the project.



The contractor has used approximately 66.5 of 70 working days provided; 99% 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:** The light poles have been set. Last week the rows of pavers were placed along with the medallion. Punchlist items remain along with the art installations.

The contractor has completed 99% of the contract. The project shall be completed no later than October 28, 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:** The Parks Department has graded and seeded the project. All that remains is the east/west trail on the north end of the site. City Council will consider accepting the project once it is complete.



Three extra working days were added to the project per a change order. The contractor has used approximately 51.5 of the 53 working days provided; 96% 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 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 were sent to those properties that have not yet repaired their sidewalk violation. Approximately 92% of the violations have been repaired, 14 violations remain.

**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:** Westbound Tower Terrace Road has been 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 project is expected to be completed and opened to the public in 2017.

### **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 Tower Terrace Road has been paved to the new alignment of Winslow Road, the final section of the realignment will be paved.

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

## 2016 Winslow Road Reconstruction Project – Rathje Construction - \$994,589.75

**Funding Source:** LOST funding

**Project Overview:** The project will include the reconstruction of Winslow Road from approximately Para Drive south to Berry's Run Bridge. The project includes the reconstruction of the existing pavement, driveways, storm sewer, sub drain, water main and other associated work. The project will begin in 2016 and will be completed in 2017. During the 2016 construction season, work is expected to last approximately 3-5 months. The project has been split into four stages; complete street closure will occur within each stage of the project and the detour plans can be found on the City's website. Detour signs will also be posted.



The following is an approximate timeline of the four project stages:

**Stage A:** north side of bridge over Berry's Run to south of the intersection with Hunters Ridge Road [**approx. start date has not been provided**]

**Stage B:** south of the intersection with Hunters Ridge Road to north of the southern intersection of Hunters Creek Way [**approx. start date has not been provided**]

**Stage C:** north of the southern intersection of Hunters Creek Way to halfway between Bellboy Drive and Valentine Drive [**In progress**]

**Stage D:** halfway between Bellboy Drive and Valentine Drive to Para Drive [**In progress**]



**Progress Updates:** All of the intersections have been poured back except one. Topsoil is being added and then temporary seeding will occur. The final intersection will be poured back along with the adjacent sidewalk ramp in the next couple weeks. Before the Contractor shuts down for winter, Stages C and D will be opened to traffic.

The contractor has used approximately 56 of the 135 working days provided; 30% 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:** The City's Attorney has advised that City move forward with condemnation proceedings. On October 6, 2016 City Council authorized condemnation of certain real property for the Armar Drive Project.



### 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  
Storm 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  
One intersection is left to be paved. Intake tops, inserts, manhole boxouts are 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 are ready to be approved once the preliminary plat is  
approved.

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

Location: west side of Alburnett Road, north of Echo Hill Road  
Subgrade is being prepped for proof roll. Sanitary sewer is being  
installed in 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition.

**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 items remain.

**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 remain.

**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.  
Site has been paved. Intake tops, inserts, and sanitary boxouts next.

**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 approved.

## 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.

- **TAC is reviewing the following item:**
  - **Request for the installation of street signage on Lucore Road and Tower Terrace Road.**

## UPCOMING COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- **On November 11, 2016 City Council will consider:**
  - adopting the final assessment schedule related to the 2016 Sidewalk Assessment Project.
  - establishing a temporary truck embargo on Lucore Road from Indian Creek Road to the norther City Limits.
  - approve the installation of Stop Signs on Winslow Road, Crestwood Lane, Glenwood Drive, Cope Drive, Cedar Springs Drive, Rock Ridge Drive, Montgomery Circle, Faulkner Avenue, Hemingway Street, Bowstring Drive, and Flight Drive.
  - motion to receive and file and refer to TAC correspondence regarding a request for additional 'No Parking' signs (Larry Juergens, 1530 12<sup>th</sup> Street).

## PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

- **On October 20, 2016 City Council:**
  - approved a partial payment related to the Alburnett Road Extension concept study.
  - directed TAC to study a pedestrian crossing on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 19<sup>th</sup> Street.

*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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