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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 29, 2017**

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: September 29, 2017**

*Iowa Avenue Canadian Pacific railroad crossing has new pavement but still closed*

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** – Work on the first phase of the Mississippi Drive reconstruction project made significant strides this week including the pouring of concrete and the laying of asphalt at the Canadian Pacific Rail Road crossing at Iowa Avenue on Friday. Concrete work also began on the east bound lane from Linn to Pine streets on Friday.

Illowa Investment, Inc., broke away from the 2017 Asphalt Overlay Project to put down for a short time Friday morning for asphalt repairs on the trail near Millennium Park and to lay asphalt on the Riverside Park side of the CPRR crossing at Iowa Avenue. Illowa Investment, Inc., planned to return to the Asphalt Overlay Project with work on 5th Avenue and West Cleveland Street still scheduled for today.

The rail road crossing is far from complete and will not be open to traffic for at least another month according to Bill Haag, project manager for the City of Muscatine.

“We still have the sidewalks to put in and Canadian Pacific will be putting in the new cross arms in October,” Haag said. “We are making progress but we are not close to opening up any portion the first phase for at least a month or more.”

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KMA Excavating, the underground contractor has progressed past the Linn Street intersection and working towards the bluffs while also wrapping up underground work on Pine Street.

The crossing will remain closed as work continues at the intersection.

Also on Mississippi Drive, the east bound lane of Mississippi Drive from Pine to Linn streets was expected to be poured Friday afternoon with the center island and west bound lane scheduled for next week.

KMA Excavating, the underground contractor, has progressed past the Linn Street intersection and working towards the bluffs. MPW has also been busy putting in new water mains and installing electrical conduit up to the Linn Street intersection.

KE Flatwork remains confident that Mississippi Drive from west of Sycamore Street to the Pine Street intersection will be substantially complete by October 13, 2017, and work west of Pine Street to Broadway Street will be substantially complete by Nov. 22, 2017.

The tentative schedule also calls work on Chestnut Street to begin in October. The exact start date will be determined by the contractors for the Merrill Hotel & Convention Center but will be finished 29 days after the starting date.

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Phase 3 will move work back east and include Mississippi Drive from Sycamore Street to Mulberry Avenue. A start date of Nov. 26, 2017, has been established but that could change depending on the progress of Phase 2 (Pine to Broadway). Underground work will be done during the winter months. Phase 3 should be substantially complete by Sept. 28, 2018, and Phase 4 (2nd Street) should be substantially complete by Nov. 21, 2018. The start date for Phase 4 will be set after a meeting with affected businesses later this year.

Drivers are reminded to follow the detour signs to bypass the construction area. More information is available at [www.muscatineiowa.gov/construction](http://www.muscatineiowa.gov/construction).

Access is still available to all businesses on Mississippi Dive and connected side streets. Parking remains available on Linn Street with a pedestrian crossing established at the Linn Street intersection for patrons of Contrary Brewing, Clamshell, Nutrition Outlet, and Escape Organic Salon.

[PHOTO GALLERY](#)

## **2017 ASPHALT OVERLAY PROJECT**

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Illowa Investment, Inc., completed Jefferson Street Thursday and, after completing some work for the Mississippi Drive project, returned to the overlay project with work on 5th Avenue and also on West Cleveland Street Friday afternoon. Isett and Cypress were completed earlier this week.

Elfers Street (Grandview Avenue to Dead End) is the remaining street segment yet to be milled, prepped and overlaid with asphalt.

The Asphalt Overlay Project is part of the Pavement Management program for the City of Muscatine and is funded through the Road Use Tax Fund and the Local Option Sales Tax Fund. There are a total of 140 miles of streets throughout Muscatine that the Public Works Department is in charge of in addition to the alleys and parking lots. Approximately \$2.86 million has been spent on Pavement Management in the last six years which includes curb and gutter replacement, full depth patch, crack sealing, and resurfacing.

### **KENT STEIN TO DEEP LAKES TRAIL**

The four-mile Kent Stein to Deep Lakes Park Trail (also known as the Wiggins Road Trail) is nearly complete with concrete work around the railroad crossing on Dick Drake Way and 33rd Street completed this week. Officials reopened 33rd Street on Friday. Some shoulder and finishing work remains before a final inspection of the new trail sometime next week.

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Walkers, runners, and bicycle riders are asked to stay off the new trail at the present time as construction continues. A ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the trail will be scheduled after the work has been completed.

### [PHOTO GALLERY](#)

### **CLEVELAND STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

The second phase of the Cleveland Street Reconstruction Project is nearly complete with some finishing concrete work being poured on Friday. Once the second section has cured, tested, and reopened, it will mark the halfway point of the project. The first phase replaced the section from Park Avenue to just east of the Cleveland Street west entrance to the McDonald's Restaurant while the second phase replaced the concrete from the end of Phase 1 to just east of Coventry Lane.

The final two phases will complete the reconstruction of Cleveland Street. One phase will consist of the section from just east of Coventry Lane to about halfway to 2nd Avenue with the other phase from the midpoint to 2nd Avenue.

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## **WEST HILL SEWER SEPARATION PROJECT**

The West Hill Sewer Separation Project has moved to East 5th Street while the paving contractor completes work around the 4th Street Park area. Streets round the park expected to be fully opened to traffic within the next week or two. Haggerty Earthworks has completed underground work on East 5th Street from Cedar Street through the Sycamore Street intersection.

Crews are now prepping that section of the project for paving and will resume underground work from Sycamore to Iowa next week. The last part of the sewer work in this area will involve the closure of Sycamore Street between East 5th and East 6th streets.

Heuer Construction, the paving contractor for the West Hill Sewer Separation Project, will move equipment to the East 5th Street area after completing work in the 4th Street Park area.

[West Hill Sewer Separation Project](#)

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