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City of Muscatine | 215 Sycamore St. | Muscatine, IA 52761 | Phone: 563-264-1550

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**GATES WERE** installed where the Kent Stein to Deep Lakes Park trail crosses the Canadian Pacific tracks on Dick Drake Way. The gates are a safety measure in addition to the crossing arms, lights, and sounds to prevent pedestrians and bicyclists from crossing the tracks when trains are present.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 6, 2017**

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: October 6, 2017**

**THREE MAJOR PROJECTS HEAD TOWARD COMPLETION**

*Kent Stein-Deep Lakes Trail nears completion; work advances on West Hill project*

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** – Work on three major projects is heading toward completion with work the Kent Stein to Deep Lakes Park Trail nearly complete, the West Hill Sewer Separation project on East 5th Street quickly moving ahead, and work on the Cleveland Street replacement project has picked up the pace in recent days.

**KENT STEIN TO DEEP LAKES TRAIL**

Work on the four-mile Kent Stein to Deep Lakes Park Trail (also known as the Wiggins Road Trail) is virtually complete with half of the paint striping complete before rain moved into the area on Friday. Paving, seeding, and fence work have been completed with the main contractor, Illowa Investment, Inc., and City of Muscatine officials tentatively scheduled to walk the trail for a final inspection sometime next week.

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Depending on the completion of any items added to the punch list during the inspection, the new trail should be presented to the City Council for acceptance at its October 19 meeting. Once the project is accepted a ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled according to the project manager.

Walkers, runners, and bicycle riders are asked to stay off the new trail until the trail is formally accepted into the City of Muscatine trail network.

## **WEST HILL SEWER SEPARATION PROJECT**

The West Hill Sewer Separation Project is quickly moving forward with project managers announcing Friday (Oct. 6) that the intersection of Iowa Avenue and 5th Street will be closed starting Tuesday, Oct. 10, as work moves into that intersection. Haggerty Earthworks has completed underground work on East 5th Street from Cedar Street through the Sycamore Street intersection and are working towards Iowa Avenue.

Sewer line work should be completed next week with the storm sewer to follow right behind. As the weather permits, prepping for paving of East 5th from Sycamore to the Iowa Avenue intersection will take place as sewer work is completed.

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Haggerty Earthworks has prepped East 5th Street from Cedar to the Sycamore intersection for paving which should begin next week. Heuer Construction, the paving contractor, is completing work in the 4th Street Park area which is expected to be opened for traffic sometime next week.

The last part of the sewer work in the 5th Street area will involve the closure of Sycamore Street from East 5th to the #5 alley.

### **CLEVELAND STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

The third phase of the Cleveland Street Reconstruction Project is nearly complete with three drives poured on Friday along with some additional curb and gutter work. The third section will be reopened once it has cured and is tested. The reopening will complete the reconstruction from Park Avenue to west of Coventry Lane and mark the beginning of the final phase of the reconstruction which will replace the concrete from the end of the third phase to 2nd Avenue. That work will begin next week. All-American Concrete and project managers are hopeful that the final section can be completed next week.

### **MISSISSIPPI DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

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The pace on the Mississippi Drive Reconstruction Project slowed a bit with KMA Excavating, the underground contractor, running into some rock near the Bluffs which pose some problems for installation of the water main and storm sewer. Underground work continued from Linn Street towards Broadway and project managers do not expect the rock to be a major problem.

Meanwhile, KE Flatworks has been pouring concrete for the first four days of the week but Friday's moisture postponed any additional concrete work until next week. The east and west bound lanes of Mississippi Drive are virtually complete from Sycamore to Linn Street but there is still plenty of intersection, median, parking, and sidewalk work yet to accomplish.

A tentative schedule for the remainder of the 2017 construction season and a look toward the 2018 season was announced by KE Flatworks. That tentative schedule calls for Mississippi Drive from west of Sycamore Street to the Pine Street intersection to be substantially complete by October 13, 2017, and work west of Pine Street to Broadway Street to 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.

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

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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.

## **2017 ASPHALT OVERLAY PROJECT**

Illowa Investment, Inc., has completed all segments of the 2017 Asphalt Overlay Project except for one, 57th Street, which was delayed by the wet weather. That section will be completed as soon as it is dry enough.

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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.

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