

BECKWITH STREET REVITALIZATION

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS UPDATE NO.15

Temporary water mains are now fully up and running and all properties within the project limits are now serviced to the temporary water system.

With that milestone completed, the contractor was able to cap and abandon all of the early 1900s vintage watermain systems on the overnight on May 14. These “cut & cap” activities are scheduled in the overnight hours, as sections of the watermain need to be turned off to allow the contractor to cut into them and place a cap on one side. This lets one section of watermain remain active when the water is turned back on, while the other side (abandoned section) stays empty and allows the contractor to work around it in the future.



With these key activities complete, the contractor has now isolated the existing watermains on Beckwith Street, and can remove them as they encounter them.

In addition to the temporary watermain work, the installation of new water and sewer services to individual properties has continued. Properties on the East side of Beckwith Street from Russell to Main Street have been installed.

Installing services on this side of Beckwith Street has been a tedious task, as the new services must pass underneath two existing Bell Utility duct structures as well as an Enbridge gas main.

On top of the added difficulty the proximity of utilities creates, the contractor must also break bedrock underneath them to ensure the services are installed at the proper depths to avoid frost penetration.

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UP-COMING

Now that two blocks on the East side have the services installed, the contractor can start building the road. A new crew will mobilize to site to complete the task of installing the new granular road box in the future northbound lane. Once the gravel base materials are installed, the northbound lane will be paved with a base lift of asphalt. This will allow the contractor to divert all southbound traffic into the northbound lane and continue with the service installations on the West side of Beckwith Street.

The watermain and sewer work will continue as the road work is being conducted:

- New watermains need to be installed on Russell Street West and William Street West;
- New watermain and new sewers will be installed on Main Street East;
- Services will be installed on the East side of Beckwith from Main to Chambers;
- New watermain needs to be installed at Chambers, in front of the Bank of Montreal.

TRAFFIC

Main Street East is closing at Beckwith Street for approximately two-to-three weeks. Businesses will remain accessible from Market Street.

Intermittent sidewalk closures will continue to be put in place while the contractor installs new services to properties along Beckwith Street. Closures to be focused primarily on the East side of Beckwith Street, between Main and Chambers.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wooden Hydro poles can be recycled and used for temporary traffic and street lighting installations.

Often when the existing lighting poles conflict with new underground work a contractor can install an old wooden hydro pole, which can then be used to mount streetlights to ensure roadways and sidewalks remain illuminated.

Occasionally four wooden poles can be installed, one on each corner of an intersection, connected by steel cables overhead which can then have Traffic Signal heads hung from them to create a temporary signalized intersection.

