

City of Washburn

Bayfield Street Reconstruction Project

February 14, 2020 Update

Project

The City, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), will be reconstructing Bayfield Street from Thompson Creek to Superior Avenue. Work will include utility replacement, road reconstruction, and other items to be identified.

Update

Recently, WisDOT made determinations that changed the City's understanding of how this project will go forward and be constructed, extending the time to complete all work.

What Has Changed?

Originally the project was scheduled to begin in 2024 and be completed the beginning of 2025. Due to the size and scope of this project, WisDOT is now planning to break it into two separate projects.

The first project, on the west side (Washington Avenue to Thompson Creek) would be constructed in 2024 and 2025. This project will begin at the Washington Avenue and STH 13 intersection and proceed west to Thompson Creek.

The second project, on the east side of town, (Washington Avenue to Superior Avenue) would be constructed in 2026 and 2027. This project will begin at Washington Avenue and proceed east to Superior Avenue.

This approach is needed because the sanitary sewer must be constructed from its lowest (deepest) point which is at Washington Avenue and proceed to the east and west from there.

Additional changes include closing the street completely during construction, in phases, allowing no detour traffic on Bayfield Street. This is because utility laterals will require at least sidewalk to sidewalk and potentially building to building digging at depths up to 15 feet.

What is the City Doing to Prepare for This?

During 2020, the following goals are in place:

1. Discuss preparations that can be taken to allow access and traffic to businesses during construction with the Chamber, businesses, and other property owners along the route.
2. Select an engineer or work with the WisDOT's engineer to begin the water, sewer, and storm sewer plans related to this project.
3. Inspect the water and sewer lateral services to all properties along the construction route (west side then east side) to determine which properties will be required to replace laterals.
4. Work with the public and WisDOT to determine the best detour routes for the community during the phases of this project, as well as scenarios for traffic flows, while the project is underway.
5. Plan for financing the overall project as well as addressing considerations for sidewalk replacement and street lighting.

Ongoing Efforts

City staff are working to provide needed information to WisDOT and to make information available to the public and property owners along the construction route to keep them informed so they can also make preparations for major disruptions when this project happens.

For More Information, Contact: Scott Kluver at 715-373-6160 Ext. 4 or washburnadmin@cityofwashburn.org