Centennial Utilities

200 Civic Heights Circle
Circle Pines, MN 55014

Phone: (763) 784-6751 Fax: (763) 785-2859

March 27, 2020

Dear Resident:

Centennial Utilities is about to begin the installation of new plastic gas mains within the 2020 street reconstruction project. Centennial Utilities' contractor, Michels Corporation, will be installing natural gas pipe at the outside edge of the street right-of-way. The gas main construction process will begin the week of April 13, weather permitting, and will take approximately one month. We are installing the natural gas main prior to the street and other utility construction to remove conflicts with upcoming construction activities. Upgrading to plastic lines will also allow us to substantially extend the life of the gas system within the street. Currently there is one gas main with connections under the road to houses on the side away from the existing gas main. The replacement gas main will be installed on both sides of the street, so there will no longer be gas service lines under the street.

The installation of the new gas lines will involve one to two crews from the utilities' contractor working in the area. The gas line will be installed using directional boring to minimize any disruption to the landscaped areas. (Please see drawing of typical installation on back of page.) Crews will be installing gas mains beginning on East Road. Once the new main has been pressure tested and energized, your individual service line to the gas meter will also be replaced with a new plastic service. This will involve shutting off gas to your residence and then re-establishing service when you are home, so we can relight pilots. You will be informed prior to the contractor disconnecting gas service, and contractor personnel will be available for re-establishing service. You will receive more specific details as service to your home is affected. The new plastic service line will also have an excess flow valve installed on the service. This is an added safety feature. Should there be a future cut of your gas service or other high flows, the excess flow valve will automatically shut down gas flow.

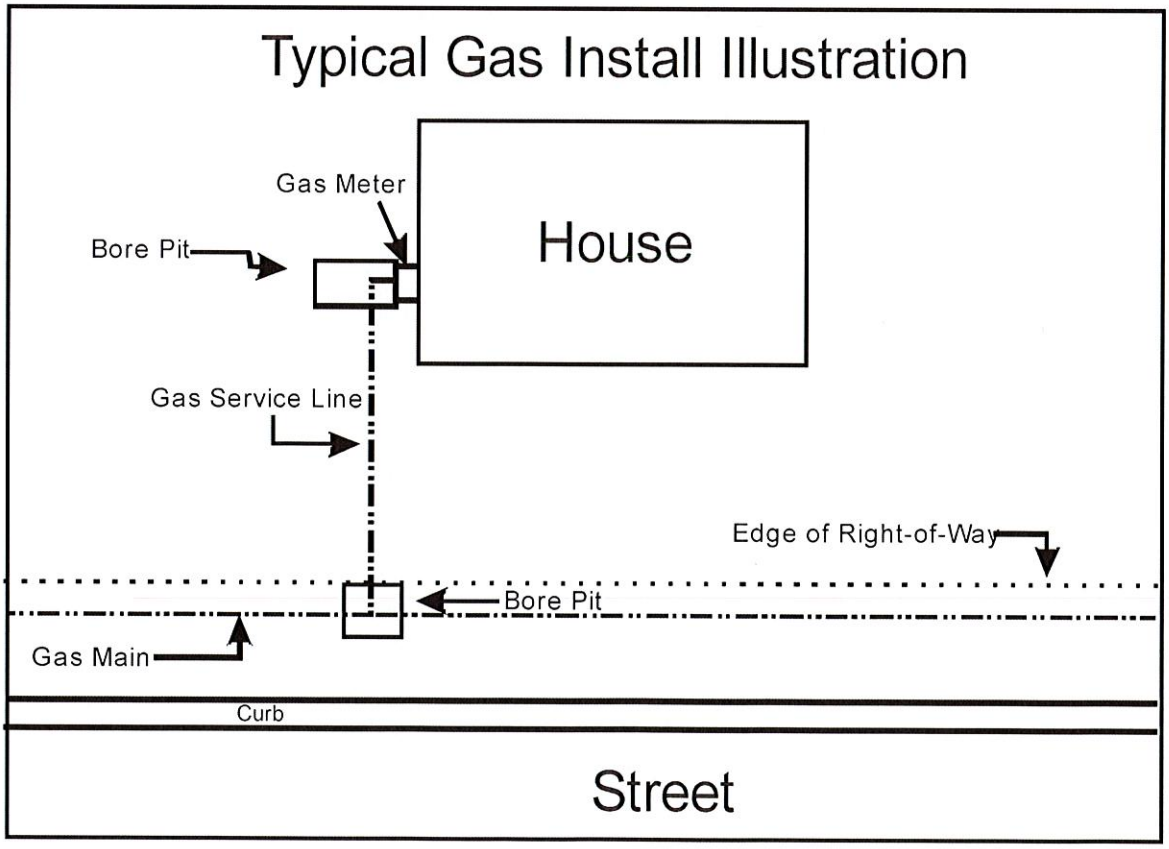
The construction process will require excavation of a 4' x 4' hole approximately 4' deep to install the boring equipment and to disconnect the old steel service line where it crosses the new plastic gas main to minimize damage to the new main during the construction process. Holes of this size will be necessary to first install the gas main along the street and then also to directional bore the gas service line to your gas meter. The process will also require a 2' x 6' hole approximately 3' deep at your meter to make the appropriate connections. The holes will only be open during the time that work is being done at that location. Afterwards, they will be backfilled and the meter area will be restored to previous material. The restoration of the hole in the right-of-way will be coordinated with other upcoming utility and street work. Some of you may have changed gas meter locations. Utility personnel will discuss this with you in advance of it occurring.

(Over)

If you have a sprinkler system in the bore pit area, please shut off the zone(s) and also, please mark the location of sprinkler heads in the affected area. Bore pit areas will be marked with white paint. The contractor will cap off the sprinkler line and later reinstall after work is completed. Please remember, if you have a sewer plug in your line, call us first before calling a plumber.

Progress reports will be available at www.ci.circle-pines.mn.us. You may also call the utility phone number, 763-784-6751, with questions.

You will be receiving a more complete update in the near future as to the next steps on the entire street project. Street reconstruction bids on the main project have been awarded and we are anticipating a virtual meeting with residents in the project area between April 1st and April 7th. We will try to meet in person (practicing safe social distancing) with anyone who has any questions. This will be before the contractor starts work in mid to late April, weather permitting. Trees that potentially need to be removed have been marked and if you have any questions please call city hall. Any other questions regarding this project please either email pantonen@ci.circle-pines.mn.us or call 763-784-6751.

Sincerely,

Patrick Antonen
City Administrator