

# 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project Weekly Update



## Current Events – Week of September 7 through September 11, 2020

- Concrete curb, aprons, and driveways have been installed on Moonlite Drive, Aurora Lane and North Star Lane. Bituminous driveways have been paved in those same areas.
- Please do not mow your new sod for a month. Give it some time to take root. When it is time to mow, please set your mower to be at about 3 and a half inches in height. Do not mow it with a riding lawnmower for the first couple of times. Water often. Additional tips on the last page.
- Where new concrete curb and driveways have been placed, please do not drive on it for 7 days to give it time to reach design strength. When driven on too early cracks will develop in the concrete.
- Be aware that during the restoration (driveways, boulevard grading, and sodding) the contractors need the streets clear to perform those tasks.

## Future Events – Week of September 14 through September 18, 2020

- Gravel will be placed between the curbs on the northerly leg of North Star Lane.
- Once the gravel is placed, paving of the base course will be completed on North Star Lane and Aurora Lane.
- On North Star Lane and Aurora Lane, boulevard grading will begin with topsoil placement and sod installation following.
- Starting on Center Road and working our way westerly, information for replacement trees will be dropped off. Owners can mark the location as soon as possible and trees will be ordered. Planting will happen shortly after when the weather is favorable for greater success of the trees surviving transplantation. There will be multiple deliveries as the tree orders come in. Please provide plenty of water for new trees.
- Starting with Moonlite Drive and heading westerly, new mailboxes and posts will be installed after the sod is laid. The rest of the old mailboxes will be picked up by the contractor toward the end of the project.

**Please note: The tentative schedule provided is subject to change due to inclement weather or subcontractor availability.**

## **Tips of the Week**

- Please follow the signs and instructions on any notices that are distributed.
- Please slow down and use caution around all phases of the project, especially around construction equipment and materials. Follow the traffic control signs that are in place on the project. Please drive slowly, the workers' and the residents' lives depend on it. Driving slower also reduces dust being stirred up.

## **Project Contacts**

***Project Construction Observer:*** Jim Klein, 612-518-8327

***Project Manager:*** Eric Eckman, 763-512-5257

***Thank you for your cooperation!***

## CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD

### Watering

- **The contractor will maintain the sod for 45 days. Once that time is reached, your sod should be watered at a rate of 2 inches per week in three to four applications. Continue this schedule throughout the summer.**
- Water early in the morning to maximize water being absorbed in your lawn. If watering is done in the evening, grass stays wet all night which increases the risk of disease. Watering during the day can cause scalding and burning of the sod.
- Additional watering is required on steep slopes to promote absorption of the water as it can run off more quickly on steep slopes.
- **The City will waive sprinkling restrictions for years 2020 and 2021 on new sod.**

### Mowing

- **Sod height for the first months should be between 3 and 4 inches. Mow grass no shorter than 3½ inches** to promote deep roots and lawns that tolerate dry conditions. If the sod height gets much longer than 4 inches, weeds tend to establish a foothold.
- **Set the mower deck at least 3½ inches high or at the highest setting.** In all cases mow in moderation as to the length of the leaf blades cut off during each cutting. A good rule is to not cut more than one-third the height of the grass off each time. The longer leaf blades are needed until the roots are able to grow and get deeper into the soil. As the cutting season continues into late summer, the sod height can be maintained at the 3-inch height goal. If hot and dry weather is encountered, you can adjust both the watering and the cutting height to protect the sod.
- **Don't mow during the heat of the day**, especially when conditions are dry. Newly cut grass loses water quickly.
- **Don't mow new sod with a riding lawn mower.**

### Fertilizing

- **Your sod will not need fertilizer until the fall of 2021, prior to the onset of winter.**
- If you fertilize during the heat of the summer, you risk killing the sod. Proper fertilizing promotes deep roots and drought tolerance. Improper fertilizing can have the opposite effect. Don't fertilize dry lawns — high concentrations of nutrients draw moisture out of the soil.

### Other Tips

- **Control weeds** to reduce competition for soil moisture. This can be done by hand or with careful use of herbicides.
- **Do not aerate your lawn in 2020** since the roots are still fragile. Aeration can begin in 2021.
- Keep children, foot traffic and equipment (including large lawn mowers) off the new sod.

Following these steps will restore your lawn to its prior beauty as quickly as possible. It will take a little time and patience, and we thank you for both.