

August 31, 2021

Dear 10th Street Resident,

Earlier this year, the City of Holland (City) and Holland Board of Public Works (BPW) began the 10th Street Reconstruction Project with our contractor, Kamminga & Roodvoets (K&R). Work started at the Lincoln Avenue intersection and has been progressing west over the last several months. The project was intended to extend west all the way to Van Raalte Avenue and be completed by the end of October.

While the City, BPW and K&R all would like to complete the project as originally planned, we have collectively come to an understanding that the possibility of accomplishing all the work under the project during the 2021 construction season is not feasible. Several factors have contributed to a slower pace than what was expected and these factors are listed below.

- More time has been needed by the contractor to work around existing utilities. For example, an old abandoned gas main has been found running the length of the 10th Street project and is in the way of our proposed new utilities. The old gas main was not discovered until excavation began as it was not identified on any existing plans during the design process.
- Our contractor is experiencing staffing difficulties, both in training and retaining employees. This has been a particularly tough year for contractor staffing and the City and BPW are seeing this across the industry, not just with K&R.
- Availability of materials and supplies are a concern. For example, a valve that would normally take a couple of weeks for delivery is now taking several months to arrive onsite and the valve manufacturer has indicated that some of the materials necessary to build the valve are just not readily available.

With this information in mind, we want to make sure that we are not caught at the end of this construction season in a position where the contractor can't restore all the utilities and roadway that have been torn up. As a result, we are scaling back the west limit of the project from Van Raalte Avenue to Washington Avenue. Therefore, the work on 10th Street for the 2021 construction season will end at the intersection of 10th Street and Washington Avenue as shown on the enclosed map.

The block of 10th Street between Washington Avenue and Van Raalte Avenue, as well as improvements planned for the intersection of 10th Street and Van Raalte Avenue, will be delayed until the 2023 construction season. One of the reasons for the delay to 2023, is that reconstruction of Pine Avenue south of 9th Street is already scheduled for 2022 construction and we do not want to have both Pine Avenue and Van Raalte Avenue under construction at the same time. Another reason for the two year delay is that we are planning to reconstruct Van Raalte Avenue in 2023 and by combining the work that doesn't get done on this year's 10th Street project with the work planned on Van Raalte in 2023, we can preserve the economies of scale for unit pricing and avoid scheduling three consecutive years of construction in the 10th & Van Raalte area.



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We realize the decision to delay the last block of the 10th Street reconstruction project is not ideal, particularly for those living along that block who were prepared for the work to be done this season. However, based on the contractor's progress to this point, we have serious concerns about the likelihood of K&R successfully completing the project all the way to Van Raalte and believe the decision to stop this year's project at Washington Avenue is necessary and prudent.

Thank you for your patience as we carry out road and utility improvements in your neighborhood and throughout the City. If you have any questions regarding this information or our plans for road improvements in the future, please feel free to contact me at 616-928-2400.

Sincerely,

Brian White, PE
Transportation Services Director / City Engineer
City of Holland

Enclosure (map)

10th Street Reconstruction Project

