



# Frequently Asked Questions

## 2016 North Shore Drive Improvements



What is the proposed construction schedule and activities planned for North Shore Drive?

It is anticipated that construction will begin in May, 2016. Initially, the contractor will set up traffic control signs to close the street to through traffic. Next, the pavement surface will be pulverized and materials either stockpiled and salvaged or hauled away. Base course from the road will then be removed and either hauled away or salvaged.

Stormwater drainage construction will begin and will consist of either storm sewer piping, or drainage swales.

Next, work will begin on the proposed street improvements including street work, new sidewalk, asphalt pedestrian trail, or curb & gutter. Material will be shaped in order to meet the proposed road, curb and gutter, sidewalk and trail grades. A base course of gravel will be placed on the subgrade and compacted followed by the construction of concrete curb and gutter, sidewalk asphaltic trail and finally the pavement surface – typically in two layers.

Upon completion of the roadway construction, topsoil will be applied and graded to areas behind the curb and gutter, with seed and mulch applied to restore the turf. Trees and other landscaping amenities will be planted at this time. Lastly, any street signs and mail boxes will be installed (or reinstalled). Construction is anticipated to finish by the end of November, 2016.

How will my property be affected?

City staff, consultants and contractors will work to minimize the impact on each property along the project route. Access for local traffic will be maintained, but the route may be closed to through traffic for portions of the project. From a financial standpoint, none of the construction cost will be assessed to adjacent property owners.

What about my landscaping items?

If you have existing landscaping items in the right-of-way such as boulders, planters, fences, or signs etc. these items should be removed prior to construction if possible. If it is not possible to remove these items, the contractor will remove the items during construction.

What about my mail?

For residents with a mailbox on the street, the contractor will meet with the post office or local carrier and they will discuss a plan that works best. Oftentimes the contractor will remove all mailboxes on the street and move them to the end of the block and create a mail “bank” at this location which keeps the mailboxes out of the way during construction. Residents can get their mail from this location each evening during construction and this also keeps the carrier from trying to get to multiple locations during construction. After construction, the mail boxes will be put back in a location close to its original location and the mail will be delivered as it was prior to construction.

What about access to my residence?

The contractor will maintain temporary access to each residence each morning and evening. If you need to get in or out of your residence during the day, please try to coordinate ahead of time so the contractor can make sure they will be able to get you in or out.



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What about my driveway?

Drive entrances will be replaced at varying distances from the centerline of the road based on the proposed grades of the new street. This may include new pavement in your driveway up to the right-of-way line as part of the construction project.

How do I stay informed about the project?

The City of New Richmond will share important information, including project updates and meeting details, through the New Richmond News and the City's website and social media accounts. Plan to attend any public informational meetings to ask questions.

If a sidewalk or trail is constructed in front of my house, am I responsible for snow removal?

Based on City Ordinance 70-8(a) "Within 24 hours after the cessation of any fall of snow, it shall be the duty of the owners and/or the occupants of any lot or parcel of land in the City to remove, or cause to be removed, the snow from any and all sidewalks adjacent to the premises of such owner or occupant, and to keep the same free and clear of snow and ice for the full width of the sidewalk." This ordinance would not apply to an asphalt trail, which would be maintained by City forces.

If a sidewalk is constructed in front of my house, am I liable if someone slips and falls?

Based on WI case law, property owners have not been held liable in this situation if the property owner did not knowingly create an unnatural accumulation of snow/ice (Holschback v. Washington Park Manor 2005).

What about the trees?

A handful of trees may need to be removed as part of the project. Depending on the final design, there may only be 2 established trees that are removed. Aside from clearing some brushy areas, the total number of trees to be removed should be less than 10 regardless of the design chosen. The City's intent is to install trees, where practical, in accordance with the subdivision ordinance, which requires trees to be planted every 40 feet on a collector street. If a rural section (gravel shoulder) is chosen, the number of trees will be limited due to the need for a ditch along the road. If an urban section (curb and gutter) is chosen, more opportunities for planting will be available.

Who do I contact with questions?

Contact Jeremiah Wendt, Public Works Director for the City of New Richmond, with any additional questions. He can be reached at 715-246-4268 or [jwendt@newrichmondwi.gov](mailto:jwendt@newrichmondwi.gov).