



WATER and SEWER UTILITY

170 West Drexel Avenue, Oak Creek, WI 53154
Oakcreekwi.gov
414-766-6600

March 10, 2023

Subject: Howell Avenue Water Main Relay

Dear Property Owner or Resident:

You are cordially invited to a public information meeting regarding proposed water distribution system construction in your neighborhood, scheduled as follows:

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Oak Creek City Hall
Multi-purpose room
8040 S. 6th Street
Oak Creek, WI 53154

This meeting will follow an informal open house format so you may stop by any time between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Exhibits and handouts will be on display for your viewing. Representatives from the Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility will be available to explain the proposed project, answer questions, and receive public input on the project.

This project is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of water main breaks and disruption of service to local residents. Work includes replacing the water distribution system water mains, valves, fire hydrants, and water services in your neighborhood.

The meeting will be held at the Oak Creek City Hall Multi-purpose room. Persons with questions or concerns about the project are encouraged to attend the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, or would like more information regarding the project, you may contact me at 414-766-6624 or via e-mail at bjohnston@oakcreekwi.gov. Attached is a list of frequently asked questions.

Sincerely,

Brian L. Johnston, P.E.
Utility Engineer

- Q1. Will there be any assessments to property owners for this work?**
No. There will not be any assessments to property owners for water distribution system work or paving work.
- Q2. Why are we doing this project?**
The water main in this area is approximately 67 years old and has reached the end of its service life. This has resulted in frequent water main breaks disrupting service to our customers. WisDOT is also planning to resurface Howell Avenue in 2026.
- Q3. Will you be replacing water services with this project?**
Yes. Water services are owned by the Utility from the water main up to the right-of-way/property line. The homeowner owns the water service all the way from the right-of-way/property line to the house. New water services will be installed from the water main up to a shut-off valve installed as close to the property line as possible and reconnected.
- Q4. Will I be without water service?**
The contractor will notify residents in advance of any planned disruption regarding their water service. Each home will have a temporary loss of water service for approximately 1 to 2 hours excluding any unforeseen conditions. This is required so that the contractor can disconnect the old existing service and reconnect to the new water service. There will also be a duration as we transition from the old main to the new main. This will have an outage of 5-6 hours without complications.
- Q5. How long will construction take?**
Construction is expected to begin in April. We anticipate all construction to be completed by September.
- Q6. Will I be able to access my driveway during construction?**
When construction is occurring on your block, you may wish to bring your car out of your driveway each day prior to construction starting at 7:00a.m. (on work days). During the times when the contractor is not actively working, access will be maintained to driveways. There will be a few times when access to a specific driveway may be restricted.
- Q7. What size water main will be installed?**
Water main will be installed as 12- inch diameter PVC pipe. Water services to each property will be installed as the same size as the existing lateral.
- Q8. Will Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility crews be performing the construction work?**

No. The contract was publicly advertised for construction. The contractor that submitted the low bid was A.W. Oakes & Son. They have been awarded the work by the Oak Creek Common Council.

Q9. What inconveniences does the Utility anticipate this project may cause residents?

Traffic Impacts, dust, noise, vibrations, detours, reduced access and other general inconveniences.

Q10. Who can we call during the project with questions and concerns?

Questions or concerns during the project may be directed to Brian Johnston, Utility Engineer, Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility at bjohnston@oakcreekwi.gov or 414-766-6624.

Q11. Can you describe the sequence of the project?

The Utility will work with the selected contractor to establish a phased plan for completing the work. Generally speaking, the work will begin with water main installation, followed by road paving work. Water valves and fire hydrants will be installed with the water main. The water main will be pressure tested and a water sample taken and tested to confirm that the water main is safe to place into operation. Individual services to properties will be installed so that the disruption of water service is minimized. Restoration of pavement, driveways, drainage culverts, and grass will follow.

Q12. Can you describe the traffic impacts?

The work will be completed in 4 stages. The contractor will begin at the intersection of Forest Hill Avenue and Howell Avenue. Traffic will not be able to travel east on E. Forest Hill Avenue from Howell Avenue nor turn south on Howell Avenue from W. Forest Hill Avenue. In stage 2 the contractor will be working in the curb lane of Howell Avenue. Traffic will be reduced to one lane north bound on Howell Avenue from Groveland Drive to Drexel Avenue. The side roads will be open unless the contractor is working through the intersection. Stage 3 is planned for a complete closure of northbound Howell between Groveland Drive and Drexel Avenue. This work will be completed at night with a detour route. One lane will remain open northbound during the day. Stage 4 will be one lane open northbound from Groveland Drive to Drexel Avenue. The side roads will be open during this stage of work.

Q11. What other project are happening in the area?

The Utility has 3 other projects in the area to relay water main. Forest Hill Manor is currently under construction. Susan Drive is planned to begin construction in April. E. Forest Hill Avenue is planned to be constructed in conjunction with the Howell project this spring.