



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – January 31, 2018 Agenda Item 6

Work Session

City Staff Overview of Utility Work

Recommended Council Action

Receive information

Context with Key Issues

The City has a review and permitting process established for projects will occur within the public right of way. Additionally, if a utility project may impact an urban forest tree, on public or private property, a review and permit is required. Pepco, Washington Gas and the communication companies are required to follow the City's application and permitting project. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission is formally exempt by State law from oversight by a county or municipal government, however, there is a long history of cooperation and WSSC does follow the City's application and permit process when working within Takoma Park.

Over the past five years, the City has received on average 50 utility permit applications annually. About half of those are from Washington Gas and a quarter each from Pepco and WSSC. The permit applications from communication companies are fairly uncommon. The vast majority of applications are for small projects affecting one or just a few properties, and include maintenance work or upgrades to existing services. However, there are also large, neighborhood wide projects replacing utility infrastructure. Information about larger projects can be found on the Project Directory page of the City website. Also, prior to the start of those projects, the City requests the utility to hold a community information meeting.

When issuing a permit, the City will require restoration of the impacted right of way. In cases where the street surface is affected, the City may also require curb to curb milling and paving. In addition, we often require pre-construction meetings with the contractors. In most cases, these projects are completed by subcontractors to the utility. In some cases there are multiple subcontractors on a project. Typically one contractor will be responsible for the actual utility infrastructure work (gas main or water line replacement) and another company is responsible for street and sidewalk restoration. There is often a time lag between the replacement of the utility and the restoration.

The utilities also provide information for the community about major projects. The websites are as follows:

<http://gis.wsscwater.co/inyourneighborhood>

<http://activitymaps.washingtongas.com/>

The current list of pending utility projects is included as an attachment.

Council Priority

Engaged, Responsive and Service-Oriented Government

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Approved by: Suzanne R. Ludlow, City Manager

Posted: 2018-01-24

Environmental Impact of Action

Many utility projects include replacement of aging and failing infrastructure. The replacement of leaking sewer water or gas pipes results in an improvement and reduction of pollution or negative impact to the environment.

Fiscal Impact of Action

There is no direct cost to the City from these projects. However, in cases where the City required street resurfacing as a restoration requirement, the cost of that is avoided by the City. Oversight of utility activity, particularly in cases where problems are experienced in traffic control or contractor responsiveness, can require a significant amount of City staff time.

Racial Equity Impact Statement

There is no racial equity impact from scheduled utility work. Most major replacement projects are dictated by the age of the infrastructure.

Attachments and Links

- List of current and known upcoming utility projects
- Application for Construction Utility or Grading in the Right of Way

CURRENT AND UPCOMING UTILITY PROJECTS

Utility	WSSC
Project	Philadelphia Avenue Water Main Replacement
Start date	Spring/Summer 2018
Notes	Second Community meeting scheduled for February 6 at the Community Center Auditorium
Utility	WSSC
Project	Eastern Avenue Water 7 Sewer Main Replacement
Start date	Phase 1 - 2018, Phase 2 unknown
Notes	Project has been broken into two phases Phase 1 - Eastern Avenue 6613 to Second Avenue and between Kansas Lane and 5th Avenue Phase 2 - Eastern Avenue Walnut Avenue to 6617
Utility	WSSC & City of Takoma Park
Project	Flower Ave Green Street Project and Water Main Replacement
Start Date	Summer 2018
Notes	This is a joint project between WSSC and the City
Utility	Washington Gas
Project	Gas Main replacement in the Long Branch Sligo Neighborhood
Start Date	2017
Notes	Gas main replacement nearing completion, street restoration expected in Spring 2018
Utility	Washington Gas
Project	Gas Main Replacement Flower Avenue between Carroll and Piney Branch Rd
Start Date	Completed
Notes	No restoration required due to upcoming Flower Ave Green Street Project
Utility	Washington Gas
Project	8 Service Connections, 5 replacements and 3 relocate
Start Date	
Notes	32 Ritchie Ave, 7501 and 7414 Carroll & Lincoln Ave, 7722-7726 Maple Ave, 305 Hilltop
Utility	Pepco
Project	Replacement of 3 Utility Poles on Laurel Avenue
Start Date	
Notes	
Utility	Pepco
Project	Replacement of Service from Takoma Substation to Sligo Substation
Start Date	
Notes	Pepco presentation to the Council 1/31/18

**APPLICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION, UTILITY, GRADING IN RIGHT OF WAY
CITY OF TAKOMA PARK PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
31 Oswego Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910**

PERMIT FEE: MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO CITY OF TAKOMA PARK for \$40 or \$0.60/linear ft. of disturbance in roadbed \$0.30/linear ft. of disturbance outside roadbed whichever is greater

Original plus two copies of application, and two copies of drawings/plans MUST be submitted.

Application is hereby made for a permit to undertake construction on property dedicated for public use at the location(s) and in accordance with the detailed description as follows:

PERMIT APPLICANT NAME _____

PROJECT ID NUMBER _____

CONTRACTOR'S NAME (if not applicant) _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL DATE: _____

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: (street address, nature, procedure, etc.) _____

Method of utility installation (check all that apply): Direct bury (open cut) Directional drilling Other

PURPOSE OF REQUEST:

- New Utility Construction
- Utility Relocation
- Utility Maintenance
- House Connection
- Aerial
- Keyhole
- Other (specify above)

LOCATION OF DISTURBANCE:

- Roadway Pavement
- ROW grass section
- Curb and Gutter
- Sidewalk
- Outside ROW
- Staging Area/Other (specify)

TOTALS:

- _____ Number of patches
- _____ Total Sq ft of patches
- _____ Lf of disturbance in roadbed
- _____ Lf of disturbance outside of roadbed
- _____ # of trees to be pruned

All work within the right of way, including staging areas, should be included.

Will any surface activity take place within the dripline of any trees within the work site? () yes () no

Duration of work: _____ days. Anticipated Start Date: ____/____/____

Project/Utility Representative: _____ Phone #: _____

Address where permit should be mailed upon approval: _____

Terms and Conditions:

It is agreed by the undersigned that the proposed construction described herein shall be carried out in accordance with the "August 2009 Montgomery County Specifications for Utility Construction Permit", the City of Takoma Park's "Amendments to the August 2009 Montgomery County Specifications for Utility Construction Permit", all applicable tree protection requirements, and any further conditions specified herein subject to the inspection and approval of the Public Works Department. All plans submitted by the applicant and approved by the Public Works Department in connection with this application are hereby made a part of this application. The permit applicant is responsible for maintaining all temporary restorations until the excavation is permanently restored. The permit applicant hereby authorizes the City of Takoma Park to make emergency temporary repairs to any street right-of-way excavation as may be necessary to ensure the safety of pedestrians and vehicles and to charge the cost of said repairs to the applicant. The permit applicant agrees to guarantee his permanent restoration work for a period of two(2) years from the date of City acceptance of the permanent restoration. This permit is non-transferable and automatically expires in 6 months from the date of issuance by the Public Works Department unless extended by the City. In addition, the foregoing application is approved subject to the supplemental terms and conditions attached to this sheet.

City use only:

Administration _____ Engineer _____ Arborist _____ Date ____/____/____

Conditions For Approval: _____

Permit Fee _____ Inspection Fee _____ Bond Required? _____ Bond Amt _____ Duration _____

Permit, inspection and bond fees are based on Takoma Park Code 11-12