



## 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.

All applications are reviewed by the City Engineer and Urban Forest Manager for impacts. Requirements related to the project may be added as conditions to the permit. Information about major utility projects can be found on the Project Directory page of the City website. In many cases, the City also requests that the utility hold public meetings prior to the start of the work.

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.

Prepared by: Daryl Braithwaite, Public Works Director

Approved by: Suzanne R. Ludlow, City Manager

Revised: 2018-01-29; Posted: 2018-01-24

**Council Priority**

Engaged, Responsive and Service-Oriented Government

**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

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