
City of Oronoco

Home of Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush



March 15, 2024

**Reference: Resident Construction Status Update No. 35:
Oronoco Wastewater Treatment, Sewer Collection System & Water Distribution Project**

Schedule for Oronoco Wastewater System Startup: Construction of Oronoco's Wastewater System is nearing completion as critical electrical components have been shipped and are being installed. As a result, Oronoco's municipal wastewater system is scheduled to commence operations on March 27, 2024. Oronoco Wastewater System – Startup Schedule Notification Letter #2 was sent out to all stakeholders via email and posted to the City's website and Facebook page on March 13th. The Wastewater System Startup Schedule Notification Letter #2 is attached to the end of this document and includes additional information on when sanitary sewer service will be provided to different areas of Oronoco.

Review of winter construction activity:

Over the last few months, Oronoco's contractor (Fitzgerald Excavating & Trucking) has made progress towards completion of the project. Work completed over the past month includes:

- Install two water services under 5th street NW to 535 and 615 5th Street NW via horizontal directional drilling.
- Reinstalling drain tile headwalls in the ditch along Minnesota Avenue South.
- Installation of electrical control panels at seven lift stations and install of the backup electrical generator at lift station #1.
- Miscellaneous punch list work, pipe testing and project clean up.
- Begun adjustment of manhole casting to final grade in downtown Oronoco.

Work planned this spring and associated traffic, roadway access, and service impacts are summarized below. Note: The tentative work schedule provided by the contractor is subject to weather conditions and construction progress and may change without notice.

- Wastewater Treatment Facility and Lift Stations startup.
- Construct short segments of sewer piping to divert sanitary sewer flows from existing community wastewater treatment systems to the new municipal sanitary sewer mains and lift stations (within River Park, Riverwood Hills, Cedar Woodlands, and Oronoco Crossings Subdivisions and in Oronoco Estates mobile home community).
- Construction at Lift Station 1A in River Park will require a street closure of River Park Place SE near the park entrance from approximately March 28 to April 5, 2024. Please use alternate routes and avoid the area. All nearby residents will have access to their driveways at all times.
- Decommissioning and abandonment of existing community wastewater treatment systems within River Park, Riverwood Hills and Cedar Woodlands Subdivisions.
- Complete construction of grinder stations on private property including completion of remaining forcemain piping, gravity piping between the home and grinder station structure, electrical improvements to power the grinder station, and the pumping and abandonment of existing septic system.

- Complete adjust manholes to finished grade in Downtown Oronoco and complete remaining sewer system testing and inspections.
- Construct final bituminous wear course paving on streets that received only the bituminous base course in the fall of 2023.
- Complete topsoil and aggregate shouldering along the 2024 wear course paving. Wear course paving likely in May or June.
- Complete driveway and pathway constructions and remaining site work at each lift station site.
- Complete remaining punch list work, project clean up, and address turf restoration that does not become sufficiently established.

Funding Assistance Updates:

As noted in the Sanitary Sewer and Water Service Connection Guidance documents previously provided to Oronoco property owners, funding assistance is available to property owners for private water and sanitary sewer service construction and for well sealing for individuals who meet certain requirements. These programs include:

1. **Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) - Rehabilitation Loan Program** to assist in financing sewer/water connection costs for property owners at or below 80% of Olmsted County Average Median Household Income. The loan program has a 2% interest rate with a 15-year maximum term and no payments until the parcel is sold or transfers ownership through an estate transfer. Contact Luke Tessum – Olmsted County Housing Rehab Coordinator for additional information. Email: luke.tessum@olmstedcounty.gov or Phone (507)-328-7124
2. **Olmsted County SWCD Well Sealing Program** – Cost share assistance is available through Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for eligible households located within the municipal water service expansion area in Oronoco, MN to seal their private wells. Once an application is received, a cost-share contract will be established with the well owner and sent back to you for signature. To complete the electronic application, you must have a quote from a certified well driller for the well sealing work (list of certified well contractors is available from SWCD). Completion of this application does not guarantee funding for your well sealing project. No work can be done on the project prior to approval. Cost Share Amount – Total well sealing cost share will be 80% not to exceed \$3,000 per well. If a well owner meets the financial hardship eligibility as outlined in the application, 80% of all eligible costs related to the well sealing can be covered by the program. The Olmsted County well sealing permit fee is cost sharable. The well sealing log must be submitted along with the itemized invoice from the certified well driller. If you are on a well shared by multiple residences, the landowner with the shared well located on their property will be the responsible representative for the group and must submit the application on their behalf. The representative will be the contract holder and receive payment after the sealing is completed.

Please complete this [application](#) and the Olmsted SWCD will contact you directly to establish a contract. For assistance with the application, please contact the Olmsted SWCD office and ask for Angela White or Caitlin Meyer. 507-328-7070 or olmstedswcd@olmstedcounty.gov

3. **USDA - Rural Development's Section 504 Loan and Grant Program** - provides grants to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve, or modernize their homes at 1% interest, repaid over 20 years. The program also provides grants to elderly, very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards. Both are administered by USDA working directly with the property owner. For additional information contact Rural Development at Phone (507) 332-7418 Ext. 4 or online via the following USDA-RD web address:
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/mn>

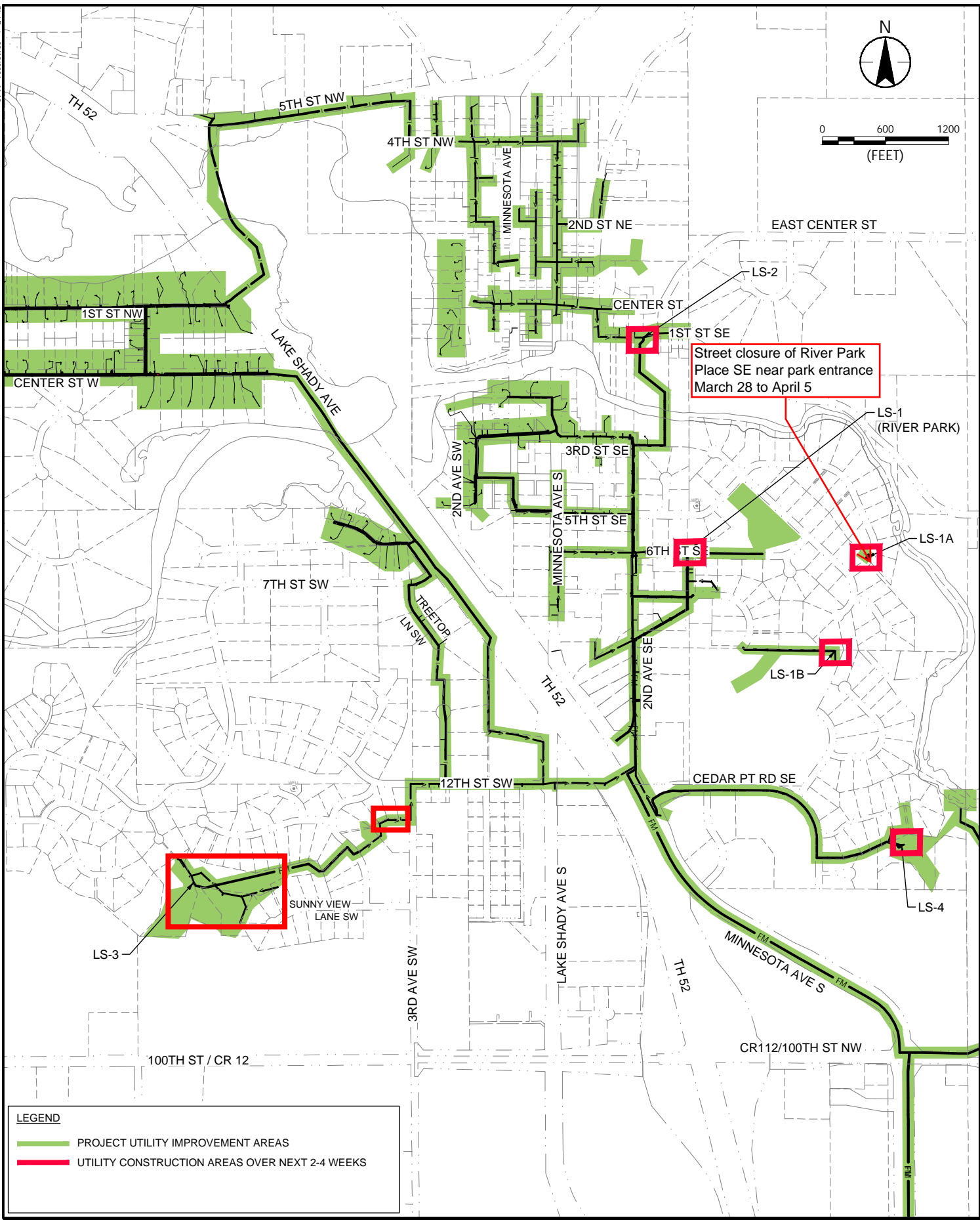
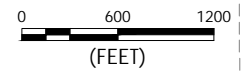
If you are interested in funding assistance through these programs, we recommend you contact the agency and complete an application before beginning any construction work. Additional information on these programs is also available at Oronoco's City Hall (507) 367-4405.

The City of Oronoco and its Contractors sincerely appreciate resident cooperation and your patience throughout the year. We look forward to completion of the project by early summer 2024.

Resident construction status updates will be posted on the City's website, emailed directly to residents who have provided their email address to the City, and printed for pickup at temporary mailbox stands located in construction areas. To facilitate enhanced dissemination of the update to residents, we ask that residents sign up for email updates by sending an email to Oronococonstruction@gmail.com. In addition to this update, the City has prepared a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that addresses common resident construction related questions and is also available on the City's website. Questions about the contents of the construction status update or about the project in general can be directed to the City's Engineer Joe Palen at either 507.529.6036 or joseph.palen@stantec.com.

Questions or concerns about construction and restoration activities can be directed to Fitzgerald Excavating and Trucking Staff: Project Foremen Luke Safranski (507) 676-3062 or Joe Fogarty (507) 517-8512.

Plot Date: 03/17/2024 11:11 AM
Project: WWSR - Wastewater System
User: ADL/DWG, Figure Area: 193804990
Xref: 193804990, connectivity: 193804990_SSS, 193804990_Aerial



LEGEND

- PROJECT UTILITY IMPROVEMENT AREAS
- UTILITY CONSTRUCTION AREAS OVER NEXT 2-4 WEEKS

CITY OF ORONOCO

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS



WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM & WATER DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS

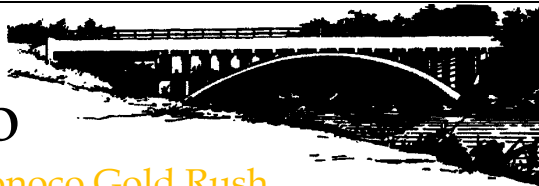
3800 Highway 52 N, Ste 130
Rochester, MN 55901
www.stantec.com

DATE 3/15/2024

PROJ. NO. 193804990

City of Oronoco

Home of Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush



March 13, 2024

Reference: Oronoco Wastewater System – Startup Schedule Notification Letter #2

Construction of Oronoco’s Wastewater System is nearing completion as critical electrical components have been shipped and are being installed. As a result, startup of Oronoco’s municipal of wastewater system and commencement of wastewater collection and treatment services will begin as summarized below:

1. Sanitary Sewer Lift Station commissioning and startup March 18-20, 2024.
2. Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) to commence operation on March 27, 2024.
3. Oronoco’s Contractor (Fitzgerald Excavating and Trucking) will construct the pipe improvements needed to divert sanitary sewer flows to the municipal wastewater system in accordance with the following schedule:
 - a. Oronoco Estates Mobile Home Community: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from the existing wastewater stabilization pond to the municipal WWTF on March 27, 2024.
 - b. Riverwood Hills Subdivisions: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from five developer operated subsurface wastewater treatment systems to the municipal WWTF from March 27 to March 30, 2024.
 - c. River Park Subdivision: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from developer operated subsurface wastewater treatment system to the municipal WWTF from March 28 to approximately April 5, 2024.
 - d. River Park – Timberline Drive: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from developer constructed lift station and subsurface wastewater treatment system to the municipal WWTF from ~April 5 to April 12, 2024.
 - e. Oronoco Crossing Subdivision: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from HOA operated subsurface wastewater treatment facility to the municipal WWTF from approximately April 5 to April 12, 2024.
 - f. Cedar Woodlands Subdivision 1 & 2: Sanitary sewer flow diversion from HOA operated subsurface wastewater treatment systems to the municipal WWTF from approximately April 5 to April 17, 2024.
 - g. City of Oronoco to commence billing for wastewater service at the end of each month of service. Sanitary sewer bills will be issued in conjunction with monthly water bills.
 - h. Developer operated subsurface wastewater treatment systems in Riverwood Hills, River Park, and Cedar Woodland subdivisions will be decommissioned by the City’s contractor between April and June.
4. Low pressure sanitary sewer (grinder stations serving homes) construction completion and service startup between March 27, 2024 and May 31, 2024. Oronoco’s Contractor (Ellingson Drainage) will coordinate construction of the grinder station, connection of the grinder station to each home, and abandonment of existing septic systems. Note: Property owners must have an electrician complete the installation of the electrical service and disconnect needed to power the grinder station before March 27, 2024.
5. Gravity sanitary sewer connections to individual homes and businesses in downtown Oronoco may begin on April 15, 2024. Each resident is required to complete a City sewer permit & construction of the private sewer service from the property line to the home & abandon the existing septic system by April 30, 2025.
6. Property owners receiving a new water service as part of the Phase 1A Wastewater and Water project may connect to the municipal water system now. Please remember to contact City Hall for a water permit and to get a water meter.

Please note that the schedule information provided is subject to change based upon spring weather conditions. We appreciate your patience and will continue to provide additional updates to all stakeholders. If you have questions regarding the wastewater or water system construction, connection requirements, or the project schedule information please feel free to call me at (507) 529-6036 or email me at joseph.palen@stantec.com

Joseph Palen - Oronoco City Engineer