

# RE: N Washington Concerns

Eric Powell

Fri 4/5/2024 12:15 PM

Sent Items

To: Karen Bickerdike <karenbickerdike@att.net>;

Cc: Alex Agnor <Agnor.Alex@marshalltexas.net>; Lacy Burson <burson.lacy@marshalltexas.net>; Glenn Bickerdike <glenn.bickerdike@gmail.com>;

Karen,

I am aware of the issue with the electrician and I have expressed my concerns regarding all the subs with Casey Slone who is the general contractor to which all the subs report to and are hired by. If the electrician worked for the City through me there would be a different outcome but unfortunately that is not the case as all crews working on this project are hired by Casey Slone. I have also had conversations this week with both Casey and his superintendent that this is not your typical construction site and things need to be kept open to the businesses and overall cleanup needs to happen more often and be better managed. Case in point the storm pipe on the west side should have had sections backfilled where they could to allow better access to the storefronts while waiting for the fixtures and that was an example I used with Casey in an effort to keep this project moving forward and hopefully gain even more momentum moving forward.

## Eric G. Powell, PE

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**From:** Karen Bickerdike [mailto:karenbickerdike@att.net]

**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 11:48 AM

**To:** Eric Powell <Powell.Eric@marshalltexas.net>

**Cc:** Alex Agnor <Agnor.Alex@marshalltexas.net>; Lacy Burson <burson.lacy@marshalltexas.net>; Glenn Bickerdike <glenn.bickerdike@gmail.com>

**Subject:** N Washington Concerns

Eric,

True, there was great work done on yesterday. Merchants and property owners are appreciative. However, it is of increasing concern that the electrical work has not been completed. As I understand it, the conduit needed to lay the electrical lines that will allow for more construction work including concrete pour, has been at location since last week. I have also been told that the construction supervisor relayed that everything was on location and the holdup was waiting on the electrician. If that is the case, in my opinion, that is unacceptable. There should be no reason to be waiting on a subcontractor (electrician) for what is now approaching 2 weeks.

I am in no way saying that you have to relay all conversations between you and the contractor to "us". If you are able to address that a heavy foot from the City of Marshall is on the contractor for completion and expediting their work, please let me know. I am communicating with merchants whose livelihood is

being affected. I let them know this morning that the City does care. The City is investigating possible relief funds/aide from outside entities. Some merchants have had reduced revenue since January of 80%+; that doesn't pay utilities, rent or put food on the table. Maybe if you can communicate to the contractor the results of interrupted business that will help all to understand why it is important to move forward as fast as possible. Non-workdays, whether waiting on parts or subs, can be seen as inconsiderate when your income, in some cases *only* income, is being affected. The lost revenue is unrecoverable. Most merchants downtown are not in operation as a hobby, but this is their career. There are even some that have been in this career their whole life. This is the reason you and others are hearing so much from this block.

I will let you know that the workers today made a mess at 210-A with mud and dirt. Water came in the building and there was mud and water all on the windows and entrance. However, they did go back and clean it up and that was appreciated. In retail windows are so important and I think that act of coming back and cleaning up went a long way with the merchant.

Let me know what the situation is on the electrician. I can help spread good news or squelch incorrect rumors.

Karen