

Dear Eric and fellow sufferers of the downtown renovation project:

We have been having issues with boards placed in front of our entrance that rock and roll when you step on them. Yesterday, my new executive assistant was approaching the entrance to the office. She hesitated and some of the workers said they would lay a board down for her. They laid down two 2 x 4's across the cavernous hole in front of our office.

Looking at the "bridge" she said, "I hope I don't fall". They replied, "We do too. Because if you do, we can't help you." What they should have done is instructed her how to go to the end of the block and work her way back through the maze of dirt and wobbly boards. What an inappropriate and unprofessional thing to say.

I have frequently had my webinars which are 75% of my income drowned out (despite my headset) by backhoes working directly in front of my door. When I ask them to do something else for awhile, they stare at me blankly, laugh, and keep working.

I have finally recovered from the serious fall and injury to my foot (bruised top and bottom with a probably broken bone) that occurred several weeks ago. The supervisor (the old guy in the white truck) who was right beside me when I fell, looked out the window and said "are you all right" and made no attempt to help me up. I am 75 years old by the way.

My parents were from 1946 – 1990 commercial builders (hospitals, schools, libraries, etc.) in South Dakota and would never have treated people affected by their work in this manner. I guess people in South Dakota have better manners than people in East Texas.

With kindest regards,

Gwen Volk, President



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"I Can Do Things You Cannot, You Can Do Things I Cannot; Together We Can Do Great Things."
Mother Theresa

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Subject: Friday Update - 3/15/2024

This is the Friday update for the 300\400 block of N Washington Streetscape project:

As all of you are well aware the project has ground to a halt with no significant work being done for the last two weeks or so due to some pretty significant issues that needed to be worked through as well as weather. As of the date of this email most of those issues have been resolved or dealt with which will allow the project to restart and barring any other unforeseen issues stay on track and on schedule.

With that being said here is the update for the previous week and a two week look ahead to scheduled activities.

Previous week:

- City crews were able to isolate the old hydrant last Sunday (3/10/2024) morning and remove it from the work area which will allow the continued forming of the sidewalk.
- Change Order #1 was approved at the Council Meeting on Thursday night (3/7/2024) allowing the contractor to begin procuring the materials.
- City crews were able to expose the existing storm drain on the southwest corner of the 300 block to verify condition and the connection point for the new storm drain installation.

Two week look ahead:

- Stormwater pipe and fittings have been ordered by the contractor and are scheduled to ship on 3/29/2024 with estimated arrival at the job site within 5 days (on or about April 4th or 5th).
- Pending any additional rain over the weekend the contractors crews will move back in to the project site on Monday. Work will include the forming for the sidewalks, curbs, and gutters along the east side as well as work needing to be done on the two inlet boxes located on the east side.

As always these schedules are subject to weather conditions but hopefully the project can get a restart and move in a positive and forward direction. As always if there are any questions please feel free to call or email me and I will get you answers as soon as I can. Thank you.

Eric G. Powell, PE

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