

Northside Park Renovation – Update 6 November 25, 2009

This week at Northside Park -

Construction

- Grading of the dewatering area along Gary Avenue has been completed and will soon be hydro-seeded. Hydro-seeding is a process that uses a tank sprayer to coat the ground with a slurry of seeds and mulch that will hold the soil until the seed can begin to grow in the spring.
- Demolition of the former maintenance building has been completed and will be followed up with removal of the west end of the adjacent parking lot and the bridge below the weir.
- Yesterday afternoon, a section of the weir was removed to begin to slowly release the water in the lagoon. This will decrease the level of water by about a foot and make the upcoming work around the shoreline easier.
- Equipment is also being delivered that will be used to drive piles for the abutments that will support the bridges and docks around the lagoon.

Access Throughout the Park

The recommended detour around the park is to use the sidewalks on Cole Avenue and Main Street rather than along the shoulder of Gary Avenue. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause during the construction. A couple of inquiries have been received about whether the fences could be left open to allow access through the park. This is not possible for several reasons which include:

- Allowing access some of the time would make it difficult to determine when the park is accessible and when it is not.
- Initial work around the lagoon has resulted in uneven ground and holes that are potentially hazardous to people and their pets. As the work progresses, this concern will increase.
- It is the responsibility of our contractor to ensure protection of their work. They are permitted to do this in the most effective way they feel is appropriate.
- Clear delineation of which sections are closed make it easier to ensure safety by eliminating conflicts between construction vehicles and patrons. This also helps to prevent vandalism.

Vandalism has been an ongoing source of concern. Since the project began, survey stakes have been removed and equipment has been tagged with graffiti. Yesterday a man in a red pickup truck was seen pulling up to one of the contractor's dumpsters to dispose of an entertainment center. If you see any such activity in the closed areas of the park, please assist us by calling the Wheaton Police at 9-1-1.

City of Wheaton Lift Station

Work on the Morse Street lift station has been completed and restored. A couple of questions and clarifications were received about this project. Sanitary lines, not storm water lines, were replaced. This work, in addition to the project along North Carlton Avenue, was completed by the City of Wheaton to repair existing utilities and not related to the Northside Renovation project. If you have any additional questions about those projects, please contact the City of Wheaton engineering department at 630-260-2065.

Questions or Comments?

I can be reached at 630.510. 4975 or via email rsperl@wheatonparks.org. Our Executive Director, Michael Benard, is also available at 630.510.4945 or mbernard@wheatonparks.org for any questions or comments.

