

# Menomonee River Parkway Renewal News Update

Issue 3

May 6, 2015



## Construction Phasing & Estimated Schedule

### Phase One

Segment one:  
W. Congress to N. Mayfair  
4/6—6/1/2015

Segment two:  
N. Mayfair to W. Burleigh  
6/1—7/31/2015

### Phase Two

W. Burleigh to Church  
Approximately 2.5 miles

(Plans are being finalized.  
Projected construction start  
date of July 6)



## Parkway construction on schedule

Construction of the first segment of parkway rebuilding began on schedule, April 6, just in time for the deluge that set an official Milwaukee rainfall record for April 9, of 3.18 inches. By the time the storm hit, the old top layer of asphalt between Congress and Mayfair had been milled off and crews had removed the old curb and gutter. The road actually handled the water fairly well, but it did delay the crews from doing additional work for a few days.

Work renewed April 13. Since then crews

- Removed the next level of gravel base roadway and although they had hoped to be able to recycle, they found the gravel had been comprised with clay, silt, and sand and needed to be replaced;
- Installed new base course;
- Poured about one half of the new curbs and gutters;
- Completed all of the underground storm sewers;
- Removed existing light poles and began work on the new lighting system; and
- Began excavating for biofiltration systems and rain gardens.



*Above: April 7, milling and curb/gutter removal.*

*Below: May 4, grading base course and new curb and gutter.*



## Reminders to residents

**Irrigation Systems:** Several property owners have irrigation systems for their lawns. In some cases, the contractor has found lines and sprinkler heads that extend beyond the owner's property line onto County property.

Often, these irrigation systems are within three feet of the curb and can be damaged as heavy equipment moves through excavating and removing curbs, gutters, and roadway.

If you are one of those property owners with an irrigation system on County

property within three feet of the curb, you are responsible for removing it prior to the contractor reaching the area. The same is true for **invisible dog fences** or other systems installed on County land. The County nor the contractor are liable for any damage, repair, or replacement of any systems that encroach on County land.

**Vehicles:** Please be mindful of safety at all times. The crews are doing their best to ensure local traffic is maintained at all times so residents have

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*Resident Reminders —continued from page one*

access to and from their homes. But it is a construction zone, so if you experience a temporary obstacle, please consider going around or finding another route.

**Oak Leaf Trail Users:** The Oak Leaf Trail including access at Congress, remains open though on-road facilities have been detoured to Glenway Street, Mayfair Road, Keefe Avenue, and the Menomonee River Parkway on the west side of the river. Despite the detour, some pedestrians and bicyclists continue to run or bike in the construction zone on the roadway. This is extremely dangerous and could lead to accidents. Please use the detour and encourage others to do the same.

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## What's Next

In May, contractors will complete the work begun in April and begin working Saturdays to make up for lost time and stay on schedule. With good weather, the new asphalt surface may begin to be laid in the next couple of weeks. Planting and landscape restoration will also occur. If all goes according to plan, segment one will be completed on schedule around June 1, and

**Parking:** All residents, businesses, and parkway users are asked to not park along the parkway during construction. Residents are encouraged to use their driveways, and businesses and others are asked to use their parking lots or side streets.

**Dog Park:** Humans and their canine companions still have access to the Dog Park and on foot, can still enter at the parkway gate. But please, no parking along the parkway. Dog Park users should park in the Capitol Drive parking lot and use that entry gate.

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work will begin on segment two (Mayfair to Burleigh).

Work on the plans for Phase Two (Burleigh to Church) are nearly complete and should be ready to bid in early June, with a projected July 6, construction start. Plans will be posted online when they are finalized.

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## Meet the team



***Sarah Toomsen, County Parks Manager of Planning and Development***

Meet Sarah Toomsen, Milwaukee County Parks Manager of Planning and Development and the go-to-person for the Menomonee River Parkway Renewal project.

Sarah is a licensed landscape architect with thirteen years of experience and LEED AP certification. (LEED is short for Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design and stands for green building leadership.) She is involved in planning, design, and implementation of Parks projects from playgrounds to parkway roads.

Sarah grew up in and lives in Wauwatosa and knows the project area well. She welcomes questions or concerns as the renewal project construction continues. Her contact information is listed below.

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## Hartung Farmers Market

It's that time of year, and on June 17, the weekly Wednesday night Hartung Park Farmers' Market will open for the summer. Due to construction, organizers are planning for the market to be in a grassy area adjacent to the dead end circle that was created when Lisbon Avenue was reconfigured last year at its intersection with Capital Drive. They are currently applying for permits and working out the details, so more information will be coming soon. The County will be working with the group on relocation and detour signage and routing.

**Questions** may be directed to: Sarah Toomsen at (414) 257-7389  
or via email at [Sarah.Toomsen@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:Sarah.Toomsen@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

**Project plans** will be available for review online at: [www.county.milwaukee.gov/MenomoneeRiverParkwayRenewal](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/MenomoneeRiverParkwayRenewal)

Plans will also be on display at the Milwaukee County Parks offices located at 9480 West Watertown Plank Road (access off Discovery Parkway).