

# Menomonee River Parkway Renewal News Update

Issue 4

June 24, 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

*( Contractor bids were submitted June 17, and are currently being evaluated. Projected construction start date of July 13.)*



## Work begun on segment two of Parkway reconstruction

Work on segment two of the parkway, North Mayfair Road to West Burleigh, began on schedule as work on the first segment, West Congress to North Mayfair, was substantially completed. Remaining tasks in segment one include:

- Completion of the new lighting with WE Energies scheduled to have them energized in July;
- Signage, installed by late June; and
- Landscaping with some installation of trees and plants delayed to September to allow the plants to mature and have the best chance of survival.

Crews began work on segment two, between Mayfair and Keefe, on schedule the first week in June. After removing the old top layer of asphalt, gravel base, and old curbs and gutters, mother nature again provided days of heavy rain. Thanks to all the residents who patiently dealt with the muddy sub-grade that resulted and caused a temporary road closure. When the rain stopped, the County directed the contractor to stop work until the sub-grade dried out. The weather delays have put the project behind schedule although the contractor hopes to make up some of the time by continuing to work Saturdays.

So far the contractor has:

- Removed all existing roadway from Burleigh to Keefe;
- Begun installing the new base course;
- Prepared the site for the new off road multi-use path;
- Begun work on new storm sewers;
- Removed existing lighting.

In the coming weeks, work will continue on the above items, and installation of new curbs and gutters should begin in early July, weather permitting. Removal of the existing roadway from Keefe to Burleigh will also proceed at the end of June.

## Other City of Wauwatosa work

*The City of Wauwatosa will be dye testing sewers this week to detect leaks in the system. Work is planned between Swan Boulevard and Menomonee River Parkway, from North Avenue to Center. Although the bright green dye may turn the river green, it is nontoxic, and safe for the environ-*

*ment. Other advance sewer work being done by the City has caused a temporary parkway closure between Swan Boulevard and North Avenue. The road will be closed to thru traffic but local access will be maintained. Please follow posted detour signs.*

## Stakeholder Questions

As construction progresses, we've been getting a lot of interesting questions from stakeholders along the parkway. We de-

ecided to include some of the more frequently asked questions and answers in the news-update for your information.

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*View from Capitol Drive looking south along Menomonee River Parkway .*

**Q. What's up with the lighting?**

A. This project includes an update to the entire electric and lighting service along the parkway including new conduit, poles and fixtures. In most cases, all of the new infrastructure must be installed before the new lights can be energized. Segment one should be lit in July, and segment two by August.

**Q. People seem to be confused about the new parking plans. Can you explain?**

A. In the residential portion of the parkway north of Capitol Drive, parking is allowed on the asphalt roadway and the concrete ribbon on the **west side** of the parkway. South of Capitol, parking is allowed on the **east side** of the parkway, adjacent to the dog parks. Signage is being installed that should help clarify where parking is allowed and where it is not. Under no circumstances should anyone be parking on the grass or on the vegetative mats that have begun sprouting grass. Cars may park on the concrete ribbon. Plans illustrating where parking signs will be posted are available online at the address listed below.

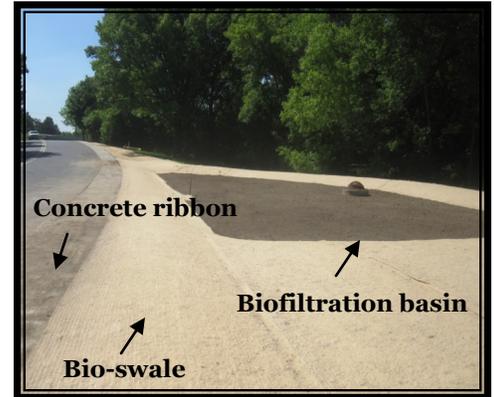
**Q. Can you clarify what options are planned for pedestrians and bicyclists?**

A. Bike traffic will be on the parkway from Mayfair to Congress, which is designated as an on-road segment of the Oak Leaf Trail. A ten foot wide off-road

multi-use trail for bikes and pedestrians is being constructed from Mayfair to Burleigh at the same time the parkway is being rebuilt. Phase two plans include an extension of the path from Burleigh to Swan.

**Q. People are confused about the concrete ribbon. Can you explain?**

A. One of the primary goals of the reconstruction project is to manage storm water in a sustainable way that promotes water quality. Currently, the majority of the parkway's storm water is directed into catch basins and pipes leading directly to the river. As part of the reconstruction, green infrastructure like rain gardens, biofiltration areas, and infiltration swales are being introduced. Each of these elements works to manage storm water, filtering out pollutants before water reaches the river. The concrete ribbon directs water to sheet across the open turf areas, is used in lieu of curb, and eliminates the need for storm pipe on that side of the road. This ribbon is not constructed to be a pedestrian walkway or bike path, although some people are using it in that way.



**Meet the team**



Meet Dave Gulgowski, Milwaukee County Engineering Services and Project Manager on the Design side of the Menomonee River Parkway Reconstruction project.

Without Dave, projects don't happen. He starts by reviewing needs the County Parks' staff identify, defines the project, estimates the cost, and submits funding requests in hopes of having the project included in County budget considerations. If the project is approved, Dave creates the bid packages and oversees the selection of a design team and eventually a construction contractor. Along the way Dave manages adjustments necessary to keep the project on time and in budget.

Dave has been with Milwaukee County for over 18 years and is a regular user of the Parks' tennis and golf facilities. He hopes the Menomonee River Parkway Project can serve as a model for other parkways in the system, incorporating green infrastructure and returning the parkway to its intended recreational use.

**Questions** may be directed to: Sarah Toomsen at (414) 257-7389 or via email at 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).