

# CONSTRUCTION PROCESS IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

As part of our continuing public outreach initiative for the upcoming town sewer project, this article presents information regarding the construction phase of the project, which is scheduled to commence in mid-September 2017. This article provides information on the anticipated construction process and mitigation measures.

## THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Following a competitive public bid process, the selected contractor will propose a detailed construction schedule outlining where sewer installation will begin and in what sequence the work will progress. The construction process will begin with the contractor mobilizing equipment and materials to the island. Mainline sewer installation (for both gravity and low pressure sewers) requires excavation of a trench in the roadway to varying depths, depending upon the grade of the road and type of sewer. The sewer pipelines and manholes are installed in the trench, which is then backfilled, compacted, and leveled to the existing grade. Subsequent to the mainline sewer installation, the contractor will extend individual property connections from the mainline sewer to edge of the roadway. There will be a future article to discuss on-lot work and homeowner responsibilities to connect to the municipal sewer.

After a period of time to allow for trench settlement, during which the road surface is maintained by the contractor, the entire roadway surface is restored to pre-construction conditions. Roads that were paved previously will receive a temporary trench paving patch, and then final overlay (curb to curb) pavement. Roads that were unpaved will receive restoration of the pre-existing surface material.

## IMPACT MITIGATION MEASURES

Temporary construction related impacts are unfortunately unavoidable. Common temporary impacts include noise, impacts to existing infrastructure/utilities, and roadway access/traffic impacts. In an effort to mitigate these impacts, we have incorporated measures into the design and will have consistent construction oversight to address other impacts should they arise.

- Typical noise on a construction site is associated with equipment and trucking sounds and pneumatic tools, which will typically occur during daytime working hours. For generators or other equipment that may be louder or operate longer, the contractor will be required to provide sound-attenuation.
- We are coordinating with utility providers (water, power, communications, etc.) during design and will work with them during construction to limit impacts, but some unforeseen impacts to local service may occur during sewer installation work. Any outages of service will be limited as much as reasonably possible.
- Storm drain structures found to be plugged or damaged will be cleaned and/or repaired to their original design condition. Please be aware that significant flooding issues and concerns related to general lack of storm drainage are outside of the scope of this sewer project. The Town will be reviewing any such issues on a case by case basis for potential future actions.
- Typical working hours for the contractor will be Monday through Friday during the daytime, with no work on weekends and holidays. For high traffic areas where detours can be extremely disruptive to traffic flow, overnight work may be recommended to mitigate construction impacts. These instances will be rare and will be noticed well in advance. No significant work within roadways will be allowed during the summer months.
- The main temporary impact during construction is that of roadway access/traffic. Safety is paramount during any construction project, so passage of vehicles alongside an excavation is dependent on specific conditions and space available for safe passage. Adequate space is needed for equipment, excavation and support activities, so temporary access impacts may occur more often on narrower roadways. The project team has been coordinating with the Nantucket Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance Services, and School Department to provide appropriate traffic management throughout construction. Specific roadway detours, where necessary, will be communicated via signage and with police details.
- To keep interested parties updated during construction, the Town website will have regular updates on the project's progress and areas of work. Available information on roadway detours will also be included in these regular updates.

The Town is continuing its Public Outreach program for this project, which includes written information published (such as this article) and posted on the Town's website at [www.nantucket-ma.gov/NHS-Plus-Sewer](http://www.nantucket-ma.gov/NHS-Plus-Sewer), public meetings to discuss project information, and smaller neighborhood-specific meetings to discuss project items that are more unique to the individual areas. An initial public meeting was held on Tuesday, March 21st and future meetings will be posted on the Town's website. Please email any questions to [sewerproject@nantucket-ma.gov](mailto:sewerproject@nantucket-ma.gov) or call (508) 228-7200 x7800.