



**CITY of CRYSTAL**

**City Hall**  
4141 Douglas Dr. N.  
Crystal, MN 55422  
(763) 531-1000  
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
www.crystalmn.gov



## 2020 Utility Reconstruction September 11, 2020

### Construction Updates and Schedule

Please keep in mind that the construction schedule may change due to a variety of factors including weather and subsurface conditions. Electronic PDF copies of these updates are available at [https://www.crystalmn.gov/our-city/public\\_works\\_projects](https://www.crystalmn.gov/our-city/public_works_projects)

**Jersey Avenue** – Construction on Jersey Ave is nearly complete. Crews have placed new topsoil and sod. Please refer to the attached flyer for important information on the care and maintenance of your new sod.

The final layer of asphalt pavement is also expected to be placed in the next few weeks.

**Kentucky Avenue** – Utility work on Kentucky Ave is complete and the Contractor has been working to prepare the roadway base for paving. The curb and gutter and concrete driveways are tentatively scheduled to be poured the latter half of the week of September 13th. Once the new curb is poured, driveway access will not be allowed for several days to allow the new concrete to cure (harden). Vehicles may be parked on the street in front of your house overnight, but must be moved off the street during the day for construction activities.

The first layer of asphalt pavement is anticipated to be placed by the end of the month.

### Trash and Recycling Pickup

Trash and recycling pickup will continue throughout construction on the normal collection day. Please continue to place receptacles at the end of your driveway as normal. If there is a missed pickup, please leave the carts at the curb.

### Mail Pickup

Mail pickup will continue as normal throughout construction.

### Utility Service and Driveway Access

Efforts will be made to maintain active utility services and access to each driveway during construction.

Impacted residents will be notified via door hanger the day before restrictions will be in effect. Please make sure to routinely check your main door for door hanger updates.

### Sanitary Sewer Service Lining Program

For those signed the agreements, sewer service lining is expected to take place during the last week of September.

### Communications

**Comments or Questions? Please contact us (please include your address)**

Spencer Szymonowicz (SEH)  
at 952-449-1417

Mick Cyert (City of Crystal) at  
763-531-1161 or  
2020recon@crystalmn.gov

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### Important Reminders

**Emergencies:** If you have an **emergency situation** regarding the street reconstruction project after working hours, please call 911.

**Construction Safety:** Please remind your children to stay **as far as possible** from all construction activities and equipment. **Construction safety is our utmost concern and your cooperation is imperative.**

**Survey Stakes and Utility Flags:** Surveyor stakes and colored utility flags will continue to be placed along streets throughout the project. They are hard to miss because they have a colored ribbon or flags tied to them. These stakes and flags guide the contractors operations. **Please do not tamper with these stakes in any way. These must remain in place until the sod is placed in front of your home.**

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# Caring For Your New Sod

One of the final steps in the street reconstruction process is the installation of the new sod. To help the new sod take root and stay healthy, your assistance is needed. Please follow these guidelines when caring for your new sod.

## Sod Responsibility

The contractor is responsible for watering the sod for the first 30 days. City staff will inspect the sod after 30 days and any sod that does not meet contract specifications will be replaced. **After the first 30 days, property owners are responsible for regularly watering and caring for the new sod.** The contractor will assist with watering beyond the first 30 days if there is little rainfall or extended hot temperatures.

### Watering

New sod requires around 2 inches of water per week which can be spread out over three to four water applications. Watering the new sod should be done daily if there is little rainfall and hot temperatures. Because the roots are so shallow, the roots dry out faster than mature lawns.

Please note that mature lawns require around a minimum of 1 inch of water per week to be healthy. When watering mature grass, please keep in mind that frequent, lighter waterings are not desirable, as they encourage shallow roots instead of deep roots. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand periods of little or no rain. The roots of new sod require about a year to reach their full length.

To check if you are watering enough, place a shallow, flat-bottomed container such as a cake pan under the sprinkler spray. Time how long it takes for the pan to fill to the desired water depth (1 inch per week for mature lawns). The time it takes is how long you should generally water your grass per application. Please note that any rainfall received during the week can be included in the weekly watering total.

### Sod protection

Please avoid walking on the new sod for the first three weeks.

### Mowing

New sod should not be mowed until either the grass lies over and mats down when wetted or the grass goes to seed. Don't be alarmed if either of these conditions does not occur in the first 30 days. Prior to mowing, set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new sod with this setting for the remainder of the year. Your new sod will die if you cut it at the same setting as the one you ordinarily use to cut your mature lawn. A healthy grass height for established lawns is around 3 inches, cutting the grass to a shorter height may result in the grass drying out faster during little rainfall periods or hot temperatures.

### Fertilizing

The contractor will fertilize the sod during its installation in 2020; therefore, you will not need to fertilize the sod until the spring of 2021. If you fertilize sooner, you risk killing the sod. When you do fertilize, use a 10-10-10 or similar mixture and follow manufacturer's instructions on application rates. After one year, switch back to a "0" phosphorous fertilizer (the middle number) as required by state law.

Your assistance with the new sod care is appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mick Cyert at 763-531-1161 or [2020recon@crystalmn.gov](mailto:2020recon@crystalmn.gov), or Spencer Szymonowicz at 952-449-1417 or [sszymonowicz@sehinc.com](mailto:sszymonowicz@sehinc.com).