



Spring 2015

Neighbor Notes

A discussion of project issues of importance to your neighborhood.

SE 9th – SE 15th to Open in June

Final work items are being completed on the SE 9th – SE 15th Street project. The masonry and traffic signals have recently been completed, and landscaping is nearly complete. Painting of the roadway will occur within the next few weeks, and street signs will be installed. The roadway is schedule to open sometime in June after modifications to the SE 14th Street bridge drains are completed. Traffic changes will occur on Scott Avenue at SE 12th and SE 15th Streets. Stop signs will be installed on Scott Avenue at both of these intersections to allow free movement down SE 12th and SE 15th Streets to Maury Street. Scott Avenue will be permanently closed at the existing railroad crossing, per an agreement with the railroad, when the next section between SE 15th and SE 30th Street is open to traffic.



SE Connector looking east from SE 14th Street bridge

Work Ahead of Schedule on SE 15th – SE 30th

Thanks to a very mild winter and an early spring, the contractor has been able to hit the ground running. Beams were set for the two bridges in mid-winter, allowing the bridge decks to be poured in March and April. The bridges over the Union Pacific Railroad and Norfolk Southern Railroad are nearing completion, and the Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) walls have been sprayed with an anti-graffiti coating. The contractor is nearly complete with all underground utilities and has already paved over 2,000 LF of street this year.



Bridge over UPRR



SE Connector looking west from the UPRR bridge

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SE 25th Street has been re-opened, which allowed the closure of SE 28th Street. The contractor is currently paving from SE 15th Street towards SE 23rd Street. SE 23rd Street is also almost ready for paving. Widening work will commence shortly on SE 30th Street and Maury Streets, which will mean temporary paving and lane shifts. Excavations will be protected by concrete barrier rail.

The contractor is on schedule to have the project open to traffic by Spring 2016..



Paving behind Titan Tire



SE Connector at SE 12th Street

United States Secretary of Transportation visits the SE Connector project

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Anthony Foxx, visited the SE Connector on Friday, May 15th as part of a multi-state tour of infrastructure projects that could use more funding. Secretary Foxx spoke to media and local officials about the importance of Congress passing a multi-year funding bill to help roadway projects (like the SE Connector) move forward. Secretary Foxx addressed the crowd from the City's new Municipal Service Center which overlooks the SE Connector. It is hoped that the Secretary's visit will help Des Moines secure more funding for the next section of this project between SE 30th and U.S. Highway 65.



Photo Above: (left) Mayor Frank Cownie, (right) Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation

Watch the progress of this construction project on a live camera feed at:
<http://www.seconnector.com>