



Randy E. Hayman, Water Commissioner

12/3/2019

Dear Philadelphia Water Customer:

You are receiving this letter as a second notification that a Water Department construction job is soon to begin in your neighborhood. The blocks listed below are the blocks on which work will soon take place; however, as a neighbor in this community, we want you to be aware of possible traffic disruptions and delays while this work is ongoing.

This project is part of the overall green infrastructure program called *Green City, Clean Waters*, implemented by the City of Philadelphia to improve the stormwater management of your neighborhood. Green stormwater infrastructure includes a range of soil-water-plant systems that intercept storm water, infiltrate a portion of it into the ground, evaporate a portion of it into the air, and in some cases release a portion of it slowly back into the sewer system.

Prior to work starting on each of these blocks, residents directly impacted by this work will receive an additional hand delivered letter to their home alerting them that work is soon to begin. This project will take place at these locations:

<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Type of Work</u>
Elmwood Avenue	Claymont Street	74th Street	Stormwater Management
Belford Street	Elmwood Avenue	Buist Avenue	Stormwater Management

Project Name: #50148 Elmwood Medians

Contractor: MECO CONSTRUCTION INC.

Date: 12/10/19 – Summer 2020

- During normal working hours (7:00am-3:30pm) it may be necessary to close the street
- Trash should be placed at the curb as regularly scheduled
- The Water Department has assigned an engineer and inspector to the project who will be on-site every day
- Our engineer and inspector will ensure that the work proceeds in a safe and workmanlike manner
- Should you experience any problems as a result of the work, please talk with the inspector on the job site who will be wearing clothing identifying him/her as a Water employee
- The inspector will notify you one day in advance of any scheduled water shut-offs, of which several may be required over the course of the project

If you are unable to contact the inspector at the job site, or have any other questions, please contact me at the number listed below between 8:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Should an emergency occur, please call the Water Department hotline at (215) 685-6300. Further information about Philadelphia Water Construction can be found at www.phila.gov/water/notifications. Questions can be sent to waterinfo@phila.gov.

Sincerely,
James Giffear
Division Engineer
215-380-2132

Project Number 50148

Elmwood Medians

- Elmwood Ave. – S. Claymont St. to S. 75th St.
- Elmwood Ave. – S. 75th St. to S. 75th to Belford St.
- Elmwood Ave. – Belford St. to Ashford St.
- Elmwood Ave. – Ashford St. to S. 74th St.
- Belford Street – Elmwood Ave. to Buist Ave.

Green stormwater infrastructure includes a range of soil-water-plant systems that intercept stormwater, infiltrate it into the ground, evaporate a portion of it into the air, and in some cases, release a portion of it slowly back in the sewer system. PWD is installing green stormwater infrastructure throughout Philadelphia. The infrastructure installed in this location will include road median rain gardens with landscape plantings, subsurface stone storage and new stormwater piping. This will allow for better control of stormwater through soil infiltration and evapotranspiration in the rain garden and better management of erosion and sedimentation. Better stormwater control reduces the pollutant loading on Philadelphia’s rivers and streams.

The completed project will also provide beautification of the area. New concrete footways and landscaping upgrades to the Elmwood Avenue medians will improve the area aesthetically. As a part of the sidewalk, curb and street restoration, new ADA compliant curb ramps and pedestrian crossing refuge areas within the Elmwood Avenue medians will improve safety, functionality and aesthetics along the streets where work is taking place.

Coordination with PECO, PGW, Verizon, and Comcast is on-going during the construction. This cooperative approach minimizes inconvenience and potential future service disruptions.

Residents living on/near affected streets will receive a letter prior to this work starting. A copy of that letter can be found in the project link on the PWD Water Construction Projects map, located at this site:

<https://www.phila.gov/water/aboutus/Pages/Notifications.aspx>

Important Project Facts

Work will be conducted in 5 areas of Southwest Philadelphia.

Work will be staged to minimize impact to the surrounding neighborhood.

Anticipated start date: December 2019

Anticipated duration: Summer 2020

Community Benefits

- Social Equity
 - *Green City, Clean Waters* objectives
 - Improved sidewalks and ADA compliant curb ramps
- Economic Gains
 - Reduced maintenance and repair costs
 - Reliable water pipes and sewers to provide uninterrupted service
- Environmental Benefits
 - Reduced water losses with new pipes
 - Fewer sewer back-ups
 - Increased Stormwater resilience
- Leadership
 - Collaboration with SEPTA, PECO, and PGW



FIGURE 1. Project location (aerial view)

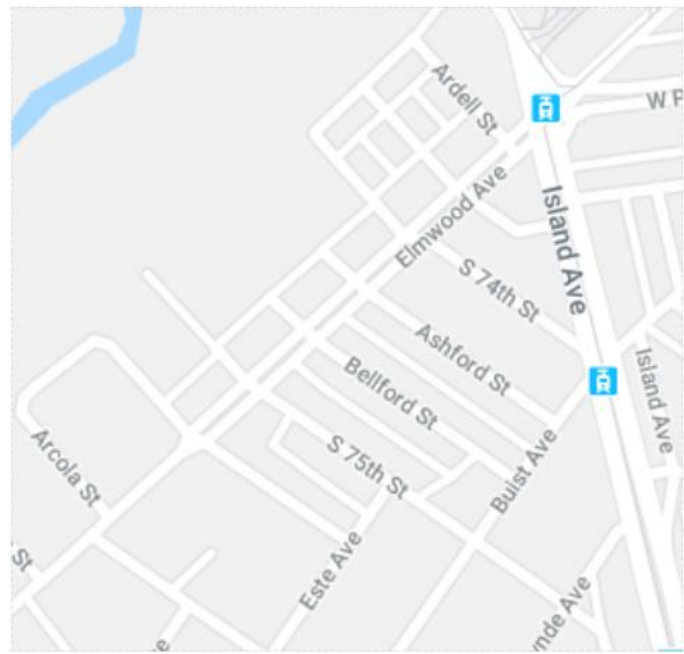


FIGURE 2. Project location (street view)

Frequently Asked Questions

With all construction there is a level of inconvenience. PWD is working to minimize construction impacts. Please refer to our Frequently Asked Questions for more information:

Q. Will I lose water service during construction?

A. No. There will be no loss of water service during construction.

Q. How will construction affect traffic, sidewalk access, and parking?

A. Street parking during hours of construction will be restricted. Temporary “No Parking” signs will be installed as needed for safety and construction. Signs will be installed before the start of work indicating the dates and hours that the areas will be closed. Vehicular traffic, pedestrian access, trash collection, and deliveries will be maintained. Any cars left on streets where work is scheduled to take place will be towed to a nearby public street. Project personnel will be available to direct you to your car.

Q. What are the hours of construction?

A. Typical construction hours are from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM but can vary seasonally.

Q. How dusty will my street be during construction?

A. All construction work is subject to dirt and dust. We apologize for any inconvenience. At the end of each work day, the contractor will be responsible for keeping the site clean.

Q. Will trees be protected during construction?

A. A tree specialist will assess all trees on these streets prior to construction to identify measures to protect trees.

Q. Will SEPTA service in the area be affected?

A. No interruptions to SEPTA service are anticipated.

Q. What is green Stormwater infrastructure (GSI)?

A. Green stormwater infrastructure includes a range of soil-water-plant systems that intercept stormwater, infiltrate it into the ground, evaporate a portion of it into the air, and in some cases release a portion of it slowly back into the sewer system. PWD is installing green Stormwater infrastructure as part of its Green City, Clean Waters plan to reduce combined sewer overflows.

