

# **Public Works Weekly Construction Report**

## **March 28, 2008**

### **Metropolitan Area Traffic/Road Construction Alerts:**

Please remember to view current Houston metropolitan area traffic *road construction/closure information* from the City website “Traffic Updates/Closures” link, which directs citizens to Houston’s Transtar website, [http://traffic.houstontranstar.org/construction/construction\\_report.aspx](http://traffic.houstontranstar.org/construction/construction_report.aspx).

### **West U Streetlight Project:**

**Streetlights Phase I** – Pole installation has begun on Wesleyan. The contractor plans to have all poles installed on Wesleyan and University by the middle of next week and have the lights operational by the end of next week.

**Streetlights Phase II** – Staff is working to resolve some issues with the height of utility lines with CenterPoint. Once this issue has been resolved, we will bring Phase II forward for Council's consideration.

### **West U Sidewalk Construction Update:**

#### **Work Done:**

- Continued assessing remaining areas where additional work is needed.
- Continued restoration of areas affected by construction.

#### **Future Work:**

- Complete assessment and begin scheduling work in remaining areas.
- Continue restoration of areas affected by construction.

### **College Ave./Bellaire Blvd. Improvement Project Update:**

As many of you are aware, this improvement project will affect the Bellaire Blvd./College Ave./Poor Farm Ditch area of the City with enhancements to the transportation system and its associated drainage features. These enhancements are designed to not only provide free and clear roadways, but to greatly improve our drainage in the affected areas. The project is the joint effort of the City of West University Place,

the City of Southside Place, the City of Houston, Harris County Flood Control District and Metropolitan Transit Authority.

The present Traffic Control Plan, closing the southern side of Bellaire Boulevard, thus moving two-way traffic to the northern lanes in the construction zone (currently from just east of Bellaire Boulevard's intersection with Stella Link Road to a point just west of its intersection with Mercer Avenue) is anticipated to remain in its current format throughout the upcoming week. Staff continues to meet with the contractor and the consulting engineers to lessen traffic congestion whenever possible. It should be noted that this section of Bellaire Boulevard is entirely within the jurisdictions of both the City of Southside place and the City of Houston, and traffic violations in the work zone will be double fines.

The initial portion of the project will be the construction of the outfall of the 72" storm water line at Bellaire Blvd. and Poor Farm Ditch. The installation of 9x6 storm water boxes continues, currently to a point west of Bellaire Blvd.'s intersection with Auden Street. Preparation for the paving of the south side of Bellaire Blvd. to this point will be initiated, occurring next week if weather permits. Also, Friday, March 28, 2008, the intersection of Braes Blvd. and Bellaire Blvd. (southern lanes) will be temporarily open to all traffic until paving preparation reaches this area. The northern lanes, of Bellaire Blvd's intersection with Auden Street have remained open.

Updates to this project will be posted weekly on our website as well as reported to subscribers of the City's email notification program. Further, please note that the contractor has established a contact in the event residents would have questions or concerns regarding this ongoing improvement project. **Their contact is Superintendent Luke Morganti; he can be reached at 832.265.7470.**

### **Kirby Drive Improvement Project Update:**

The City of West University Place remains in negotiations with the City of Houston for the placement of sidewalks on the west side of Kirby Drive. Upon issues being resolved to our satisfaction, we will bring the agreement forward to City Council for approval.

On or about January 16<sup>th</sup> 2008, the Segment 3 contractor mobilized into the area, setting up their traffic control measures. Further, they are starting demolition of the west side of Kirby Drive to establish a trench for future installation of storm water boxes. Last week, the City of West University Place contacted and met with the contractor regarding damage caused to property owners trees. The City of Houston and the contractor have agreed to work with our property owners to resolve the issue to their satisfaction. The City of West University Place awaits official communications with the City of Houston regarding construction timelines, methods, etc. Until this information is received we have the following contact information:

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