



Department of Public Works

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September 15, 2025

To: Property Owners and Residents along Starker Avenue

Re: Street Reconstruction Project, Post Construction Information – Terrace Area Restoration

The Contractor has substantially completed work on Starker Avenue (Woodvale Drive to Droster Road). Below is some general information for property owners regarding restoration of terrace areas post-construction and warranty work

Terrace Restoration

The typical procedure is to restore the terraces with quality seed, polymer (a soil stabilizer), fertilizer, and 100% organic matting. You can help the grass grow by watering it as needed based on seasonal conditions (potentially daily during dry conditions) until the grass has been mowed a few times.

Terrace Mowing

All seed mixes have a certain amount of annual plant seed in them, and there can also be weed seed within the topsoil that was brought to the site; unfortunately, this is unavoidable. For the most part, the weeds are also annuals and will quickly die off if watering and mowing is completed on a routine basis, when grass growth reaches approximately 3". Please mow the grass and weeds at this height for the first year and the grasses should come to dominate over one to two growing seasons. The matting used to stabilize the terrace is biodegradable and will break down over time. You can raise the blades on your mower so that the matting does not get tangled in the mower blades.

If plants (both grasses and weeds) are established and there is minimal risk for soil loss, the matting can be pulled up before it fully biodegrades and be placed in your garbage cart.

Leaf & Yard Waste Collection

For the first year after the terrace restoration, avoid piling your yard waste loose in this area for collection by Streets Division. The ground will still be soft and their equipment may damage it. You are encouraged to use the Streets drop-off sites for yard waste disposal, if possible, instead of the terrace. If you must use your terrace for yard waste pickup in this first year, you should put your yard waste into compostable paper leaf and lawn bags to lessen the need of crews to use their vehicles to drive onto these soft terrace areas in order to push leaves or yard waste into collection trucks.

New Terrace Trees

The Urban Forestry section of the Streets Division plants and maintains trees in the terrace. Forestry staff will review the project area upon completion to plan for any new street tree plantings within the City's right-of-

way, which may take place the spring or fall following construction. When new trees are planted, they leave a door hanger explaining how you can help care for it. You can also find this information on the "New Tree Care" page of the Urban Forestry website,

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/Forestry> or you can call Urban Forestry with questions at 608-266-4816.

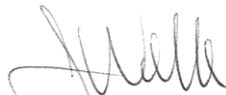
As a reminder, here is a summary for caring for newly seeded areas of restored terrace:

- Water, if needed
- Weeds/annuals will probably pop-up, just keep mowing
- Matting is biodegradable but can be placed in garbage carts once vegetation is established
- Avoid placing items on the terrace such as yard waste, brush, and leaves for the first year, if possible

Warranty Work

- City Engineering will review the project the following season after the project is fully complete to determine if there are any defects in the new curb and/or sidewalk that require reconstruction by the Contractor during the Warranty work period. If you notice any cracked or damaged curb, driveway apron, and/or sidewalk, please contact the project manager or inspector to report the issue.
 - Project Manager: Andrew Zwieg, (608) 266-9219, azwieg@cityofmadison.com
 - Inspector: Paul Lauby, (608) 520-2378, plauby@cityofmadison.com

Sincerely,



James M. Wolfe, P.E.
City Engineer

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Cc by Email:

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Adam Wiederhoeft, Water Utility
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