

### Department of Public Works

# **Engineering Division**

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January 24, 2024

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Principal Engineer 1 Mark D. Moder, P.E. Andrew J. Zwieg, P.E.

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TO: Property Owners and Residents along Hudson Avenue, Miller Avenue, Willard Avenue, Center Avenue, and Sommes Avenue

RE: Street Reconstruction Project, Post Construction Information – Terrace Area Restoration & & Proposed Street Reconstruction Start

The Contractor has substantially completed work on Miller Ave (Oakridge Ave to Atwood Ave), Willard Ave (Hudson Ave to Elmside Blvd), Center Ave (Hudson Ave through Miller Ave), and a portion of Sommers Ave (Hudson Ave through Miller Ave). The top layer of asphalt and final pavement marking for phase 1 construction will be placed and coordinated with the final paving in phase 2 in the summer of 2024. Below is some general information for property owners regarding restoration of terrace areas post-construction.

The City of Madison is planning to continue construction in the spring of 2024 on Miller Ave (Willard Ave to Atwood Ave), Willard Ave (Ohio Ave to Miller Ave), Center Ave at Hudson Ave, and the remaining portion of Sommers Ave (Hudson Ave to Miller Ave). Work is scheduled to begin in late March or early April of 2024 and be completed in summer of 2024. More information regarding construction is available on the project page, including a Construction Facts & Details document. If you'd like to have a printed copy mailed to you, please contact the project manager. Once the contractor determines the start date, it will be posted to the project page. MGE is planning gas main work on Hudson Avenue from Oakridge Ave to Atwood Ave in March and April. MGE is planning to remove all the sidewalk along the west side of the street to install a new 8-inch main.

# **Terrace Restoration with Project**

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 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 breakdown 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 curbside pickup. If that is not feasible due to the amount you generate, consider using your driveway apron 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, <a href="https://www.cityofmadison.com/Forestry">www.cityofmadison.com/Forestry</a> 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 terraces:

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

Sincerely

James M. Wolfe, P.E. City Engineer

RFP: ajz Cc by Email:

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