

# Main Street Gazette

- 1 Project Progress
- 1 Future Work Schedule
- 1 A Brick Paving Education
- 2 Surface Project Gets Green Light
- 2 Random Construction Notes
- 2 Faces on the Project
- 2 Riddle of the Week
- 2 Quote of the Week
- 2 Project Contacts

Foth Infrastructure &  
Environment, LLC  
1402 Pankratz Street  
Madison, WI 53704

The intent of this newsletter is to establish better communications with the residents of Evansville during the construction of this project. This newsletter will provide updates and information relating to the project from the City, the City Engineers, and the Contractor. The newsletter will be delivered bi-weekly.

*Newsletter written, edited and distributed by*

*Tom Pfefferkorn, Resident Project Engineer*

## Project Progress

*By Tom Pfefferkorn*

I'm sure everyone has noticed that work on West Main Street as far as the Utility Project is concerned has been completed. The plan for that project called for the installation of a gravel base course that will be re-used as part of the upcoming surface restoration project, (more on that later). West Main Street is open for local car traffic. The small areas of missing curb at the First Street intersection are being poured today and the contractor is scheduling his asphalt paving contractor to come in and pave the First street intersection, which does not get brick pavers.

G. Fox has moved over to Maple Street and has begun installing sewer and water lines over there. Progress has been hampered in this area as the gas company has yet to move a gas line that they said they would move a long time ago. This gas line is in conflict with our main sewer manhole. Rather than wait for the gas company, G.Fox has been keeping busy installing additional Watermain and Sewermain at Maple Street.

On a project like this I always draw the analogy to rehabbing an old house- you never know what your going to find hidden in the walls or underground. The City knew that Maple Street has two existing watermains. running down it. When the contractor went to abandon the existing 4" water line on one side of Maple Street and re-connect it to the

existing 6" watermain on the other side it was discovered that the 6" watermain was what they call transite pipe, or "paper pipe". This pipe was in popular use right after World War Two as there was a shortage of iron for making water pipe. It is very brittle and cannot effectively be connected to. The City water Department made a decision to replace this pipe for the entire length that it runs down Maple Street to Church Street with modern ductile iron pipe.

## Future Work Schedule

The gas company is scheduled to remove their gas line on Friday in order for us to begin to complete our work on Maple Street. Work on Maple Street will take all of next week (through the 15<sup>th</sup> of June). Then the contractor will be moving to the block of East Main Street from Madison Street to Maple Street. Traffic flow in this area will be stopped but East Main Street East of Maple Street will still be open. When work begins on East Main Street in this area the work crews will be removing the existing brick pavers and stockpiling them for future replacement in the roadway.

## A Brick Paving Education

The Main Street restoration project is unique in many ways but the one thing that will really set it apart from other communities is the re-installation of the brick paved streets. The City applied for and received a grant in order to help make the brick paved streets a reality again. The brick street will extend on West Main Street to Madison Street and then on East Main Street from Madison

Street to Maple Street. An additional request had been made for grant monies to allow for the brick pavers to extend to Railroad Street but this grant money was denied.

The Engineers estimate that the Contractors will be removing almost 250,000 bricks! Of these we are expecting about 25% to 33% to not be reusable. G. Fox will be setting up a brick processing operation at the corner of Church Street and Maple. The City would like to thank Greg Helgeson for the use of his property. The bricks removed from the street will be loaded onto a conveyor belt system and as they move along workers will pluck them off the belt and put them in pallets. The remaining junk bricks will reach the end of the conveyor where they will be disposed of. Once the pallets are complete they will be banded and stored for use on the surface project. In talking with potential contractors for the brick paving project they all demanded that the bricks be palletized and not just left in a pile for them to pick through. It is estimated this processing may take 2-3 weeks with a crew of about 10 working 8 hours a day.

Brick paved streets are not the norm these days but there are contractors who specialize in doing this throughout the Midwest. A few of them have been consulted with in order for the City and the engineers to re-learn the lost art of building a brick paved street.

## Surface Project Gets Green Light

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter there are actually two contracts to complete the renovation of Evansville's downtown streets. The City got some good news this last week as the delays caused by the state funding bureaucracy have been worked through and the City has permission to advertise for bids for the second and final phase of the project. The City Engineers, Foth Infrastructure, will have the advertisement out to trade magazines, plan rooms and newspapers next week

and the bids will be opened July 5<sup>th</sup>. The Construction of the next phase should then begin yet in July and be completed in late fall.

G. Fox and Son will probably not bid on the second contract as it involves work that they are not equipped to do. This work will most likely be bid by Concrete contractors, road builders, and others who specialize in this type of surface work. Having split contracts allowed for more specialized contractors to bid on the projects and not have to bond and insure other subcontractors for huge amounts of work that the general contractor cannot do himself. This itself saves the City a lot of money and results in a higher quality project.

## Random Construction Notes

With the additional work on Maple Street South to Church Street there are a couple of access issues that have to be dealt with. Access to the Baker Block Apartment parking lot and the Vet Clinic will be from East Main Street while we work on south Maple Street. When south Maple Street is done access will switch to coming from Church Street. There may be times when working directly in front of these properties will temporarily restrict access and parking but by the end of the day it is intended that access into the parking lot for the Baker block and City parking lot is open.

The issue of Garbage pick-up when East Main Street closes has been discussed with the garbage company. All resident should bring their garbage out on East Main Street as usual and the contractors will take it to a spot for the trucks to get at it. The contractors will then return buckets to the respective homeowners. Please have addresses labeled on

garbage buckets.

Parking on West Main Street has been posted for now as parallel parking only-not the slant parking everyone's used to.

## Faces on the Project

*Dave Brown*

Dave Brown is the operator of the large Kobelco backhoe digging for G. Fox Construction. Dave is from Janesville and just celebrated his 32<sup>nd</sup> year working with G. Fox. He started at 18 years old and I've heard he had his big bushy moustache even then. Dave's favorite thing to do is to talk, which he is very good at (at least in quantity-not so much the quality). Dave also runs an air filter company so come see him with all your equipment air filter needs.

## Riddle of the Week

What does the equation  $2+2=5$  and my left foot have in common?

(Answer at the end of the newsletter – no peeking!)

## Quote of the Week

Begin!-The Rest is Easy

*Margaret Koster*

## Project Contacts

The Project field office behind the City Water and Light Building. The phone # is (608) 882-2790.

Tom Pfefferkorn, Resident Project Engineer phone # is (608) 358-7144

**Riddle Answer:**

They are both not right!