

October 20, 2017

Dear Resident,

On October 16, 2017, we informed you of a meeting to talk with residents about the upcoming Sewer Separation Project in your neighborhood. The meeting will be in the auditorium (C141) of Bryant Middle School, 460 N. Vernon, on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Note that the timeline of the project is evolving as we work with you to preserve trees in front of your homes. Please review the site map as shown on the back of this letter. Although all streets as shown in area "A-1", area "A-2" and area "B" were slated for construction next year, we're postponing the construction in area "A-2" until 2019. This will allow the Engineering team to explore new ideas to design the project to best protect trees in the easement. More details will be shared at the November 16 meeting regarding area A-2, as well as information about the entire scope of the project.

We know trees in your neighborhood and throughout the city are important, and it's our goal to protect them. As we begin preparations for the 2018 construction in areas A-1 and B, the following steps will be taken:

- City staff (an arborist and project engineer) will inspect all of the trees between the curb and the sidewalk and identify any trees that require removal because of their health. They will also identify those trees that are within 12" (inches) of the curb line.
- A letter will be sent to affected homeowners that the trees in front of their house may require replacement either because of their health or because of their close proximity to the curb line. Generally, concrete paving of a street requires 12" (inches) of clearance behind the curb line.
- The letter sent following the tree evaluation will also indicate that city staff would like to meet with the property owner to discuss the tree removal criteria.
- **Only if agreed to by the homeowner will city staff schedule removal of trees that are within 12" (inches) of the curb line. If the home owner does not agree to remove a tree in front of his/her house, the tree will not be removed.**
- Unhealthy trees that pose a safety hazard will be removed only after providing proper notification to the home owner.
- The city may implement alternate concrete paving methods on a case-by-case basis to protect trees. These methods may extend the construction period and the time that residents cannot access their street with their vehicles.
- **Note that the city is committed to replacing all trees that could not be preserved, as well as adding new ones where they previously did not exist, once the construction project is completed in your neighborhood**

This letter is being sent to you to assure you that city staff will not schedule any tree removal in front of your house without obtaining concurrence from you.

With this collaborative approach, we are committed to making every attempt at protecting as many trees as possible. Please contact me at (313) 943-2145 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

M. Yunus Patel
City Engineer