

Message about the Completion of the Park Avenue and Ferry Road Pipeline Project.

August 30, 2023

As you are viewing this portion of our website, it is likely that you are interested in learning more about the Park Avenue / Ferry Road pipeline project, and the remaining work schedule.

Below is a summary.

1. Landscaping: One of the last items to be completed on a construction is usually the completion of landscaping and final cleanup. The reason that this work is typically left to the end is because we want to include any problems created during the final paving process.

Prior to closing out a construction project, we drive or walk the entire route, noting items needing attention on a contractor's final "punch list" of items needing attention, many times comparing these items with the preconstruction video of record. By doing so, we can confirm issues needing the attention of the contractor and eliminate any inappropriate claims. Funds are retained by the Authority and the contractor is not paid in full until all Punch List items are completed. If you have any issues you wish to have considered, please contact Mr. Mark Elser by email atmels@nwwater.com, describing the problem and providing an exact location.

2. Fire Hydrants: We have received a few questions about why the new fire hydrants along the route are "bagged". Inactive fire hydrants are bagged to alert the fire service that the hydrants are not yet ready for use. This has been a safety practice in the water industry for decades.

In summary, the hydrant cannot be placed into service (and the bags removed) until all testing is complete. This includes:

- a. Filling and Pressure Testing of the new pipeline.
- b. After installation and pressure testing, the pipeline is disinfected for at least 24 hours.
- c. After disinfection, the water in the pipeline is then flushed, sampled, and analyzed by an independent laboratory for a minimum of two times, at least 24 hours apart.
- d. Once the sample tests have confirmed compliance with all PaDEP standards for public drinking water, we then request approval from the PaDEP to place the line into service.
- e. When PaDEP approval is issued allowing us to activate the line and hydrants, the bags will be removed, the line placed into service, and the municipality and local fire service agencies will both be notified.

3. Final Paving: We have also received a few questions about why final paving has not yet commenced. Final paving cannot be completed until the pipeline is totally installed and passes a pressure test. This is important so that we do not have to dig up the new pavement in the event of a needed repair after the pressure testing. We are approaching the completion of the pipeline installation which will be quickly followed by the pressure testing. **Once we are certain that we will not need to excavate any portions of the roadways again, the final paving will begin. We are as anxious as you are to see the project completed.**

The project is proceeding on schedule, (the weekly posted on the project website) and we have had very few problems, considering the construction includes about 5 miles of pipeline.

After completion, the new pipeline will enhance local fire protection to all nearby homes and businesses by providing a reliable supply of water for firefighting. The line will also provide a safe and reliable supply of drinking water where and when needed in the adjacent areas in Doylestown, New Britain, and Plumstead Townships.

We apologize for the temporary inconveniences and we thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we bring this important community project to completion.

Respectfully,

North Wales Water Authority

Robert C. Bender
Executive Director