

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1. When will construction begin?**
  - a. Construction is anticipated to begin in Fall 2021.
- 2. What happens to existing stormwater tunnel once the new one is in place?**
  - a. It will remain in place and in service. The city has been repairing the existing tunnel over the last few years and a portion of the existing tunnel under Chicago Ave will be removed and enlarged out to the Mississippi River. This will enhance capacity of the whole new system.
- 3. Do you anticipate noticeable noise or vibrations near Portland Ave and 2nd St?**
  - a. You will see and hear trucks, cranes, and other equipment moving around on the surface near the worksites.
- 4. What will happen to all that sandstone removed?**
  - a. It will be hauled away and disposed of at an appropriate landfill or reused as backfill on other projects.
- 5. What are the work hours? Do they differ by site?**
  - a. Yes, the work hours vary by site.
  - b. The site located by the Mississippi River and Mills Ruin Park will operate 24-hours every day between September and May.
  - c. The three work sites along Washington Ave will work from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays year round.
  - d. We will work with contractor to minimize noise/disruptions when possible.
- 6. Any impacts on the Farmers Market and the Guthrie - especially on the Chicago Mall between 2nd St and the River Rd?**
  - a. There are five wells that will be installed before construction of the new parallel tunnel begins, and the other wells will only be installed if they are needed to dewater the area more. The well on the southeast corner of 2nd St and Chicago Ave is one of the contingency wells that will only be installed if needed. There is a chance that this well will not be installed. The dewatering wells will not be in the Chicago Mall area on the Guthrie side.
  - b. If we need to install the dewatering well at this location, we will coordinate with the Farmers Market. The well would take approximately 2-3 weeks to install. Once it is installed, there will be a chain link fence around it and the pump used to dewater will be low noise.
- 7. Are the dewatering wells temporary or permanent?**
  - a. Dewatering wells will be installed for construction and then sealed after construction is completed.
- 8. When will work at the Washington Ave and 2nd Ave access point end?**
  - a. We currently anticipate this location will be utilized until June 2023.

**9. What should residents near the access shaft at the corner of Washington Ave and 2nd Ave expect?**

- a. A nine or ten-foot fence with a noise wall attached to it will be installed around the construction site. For the first few months, a drill rig will be onsite while we construct the new access shaft.
- b. Once the access shaft has been built, you will see trucks loading sand, a crane transporting personnel and materials to/from the tunnel, and concrete trucks pumping concrete down the shaft.

**10. How many weeks will the trucks be hauling out the sand? Will 20 trucks be hauling every day for two years?**

- a. Activities include removing sandstone from the tunnels and installing concrete tunnel liners. We estimate that their contractor could excavate up to twenty truckloads of sandstone a day. The sand might be stockpiled at the surface and then hauled away, so the number of trucks on a particular day could be highly variable. Trucks may not be hauling every day.
- b. We do not have the contractor onboard yet, so this is generally what we anticipate.

**Will truck hauling only occur during daylight hours?**

- c. It would be unlikely that truck would be hauling at night, however the contractor isn't on board yet, so we do not have their intended schedule. This would only occur at the access site near the Mississippi River at the Mill Ruins Park area, and we would work with the contractor to minimize any noise and disruptions for the area residents.

**11. Will this project eliminate the odors coming up from the sewer grates along Washington Ave near Portland Ave as well as the stagnate water at Mill Ruins Park?**

- a. Unfortunately, those odors will not be alleviated by our project. Our project is a stormwater project and will alleviate stormwater issues. The odors that you are likely experiencing in this area, are most likely sanitary sewer odors. MCES has a large sewer line at this location and sometimes the odors will be more noticeable at the street level depending on factors like air pressure.
- b. The City's stormwater tunnels do not have standing water in them. The stagnant water at Mills Ruins Park is most likely caused by the amount of water that the Minneapolis Park Recreation Board (MPRB) is putting through the canal area that they oversee down by the Stone Arch Bridge. The MPRB controls the flow rates through the canal and that area is not part of our stormwater project.

**12. What is the construction cost?**

- a. The overall construction bid was approximately \$57 million, this does include contingencies.
- b. Some of the things that may affect the total cost are the depth of the tunnel and the length of it. It is difficult to tunnel 70-80 feet underground and the tunnel work is approximately a mile long.

**13. Who do I contact if I have any questions or concerns about this project?**

- a. You can call our project phone at 612-888-9418 or email us at [info@mplscentralcitytunnel.com](mailto:info@mplscentralcitytunnel.com).
- b. Please visit our project website for more information or sign up for our newsletters, [www.minneapolismn.gov/centralcitytunnel](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/centralcitytunnel).

