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BID AWARDED

The Branson Board of Aldermen officially approved a contract last night for the construction of the Phase 1 of the downtown streetscape project. The approval was on “first reading”. This means that the Aldermen should approve the contract on “second reading” at their September 23rd meeting. After the second reading, the contractor can begin processing his insurance and other mandatory documentation for the work. This effort usually takes at least two weeks. It is anticipated that the contractor will be given a “Notice to Proceed” in early October.

The contract is with D&E Plumbing & Heating from Nixa in the amount of \$2,563,445. A frequent question is in regards to how a plumbing and heating contractor can do heavy construction building a roadway. The answer is that the firm, which started business in the late 1970’s was originally a plumbing and heating contractor. But, as the years past, they began to do more work in excavation and heavy construction but they decided to retain their original company name. In fact, this firm has done several major projects for the City of Branson - always with outstanding results. Among the projects that D&E has done for the city are a segment of the 5-lane Shepherd of the Hills Expressway and also the Skaggs Roundabout and a portion of Branson Landing Boulevard.

PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE

Over the next few weeks, pavement maintenance will be underway on Main Street. This is part of the city’s annual street overlay maintenance. This work is unrelated to the streetscape project. This work is necessary to keep the driving surface in an acceptable condition prior to a future phase of the streetscape project occurring in this area of Main Street. Watch for notices in the news media regarding the scheduling for this work.

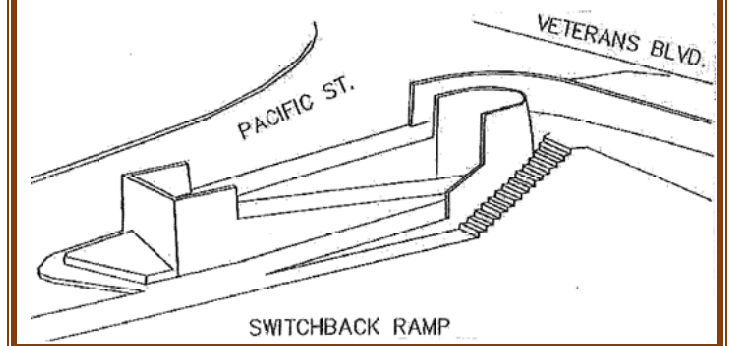
CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Miller the Branson City Engineer at 337-8559

A SOLUTION TO PEDESTRIAN WOES

As everyone familiar with the streets in Downtown Branson knows, there are certain areas that can be challenging for pedestrians - especially for citizens with mobility issues. One particular problem location is along the east side of Business 65 at Pacific Street. On the south side of Pacific Street there are no sidewalk ramps and the “sidewalk” along business 65 is nonexistent. On the north side of Pacific Street the asphalt shoulder has a ramp but it doesn’t lead to anywhere. The sidewalk along the store fronts forces pedestrians to use stairs. Fortunately, there is a solution to these issues contained with the Phase 1 streetscape project.

The project includes a new “switchback ramp” along the north side of Pacific Street. The ramp will be fully compliant with the Americans with Disability Act. In addition to the ramp, stairs will be built for those pedestrians who desire a quicker route. Both means of access will lead to a mid-block crosswalk which eliminates forcing pedestrians to walk on the steeply cross-sloped section of Pacific Street. The sidewalk in front of the businesses fronting Business 65 will also be widened and made more pedestrian-friendly.



Historic Downtown Website
www.bransonstreetscape.com