



October 10, 2014

Volume 6

HALLELUJAH

The Downtown Streetscape project is underway! It is really going to happen!

All of the required paperwork and documentation such as insurance and bonds are now being finalized between the contractor and the city. The contractor now believes that equipment and materials will begin arriving on site around Monday October 20th. But... that doesn't mean that work is not already underway. The contractor has already initiated the production of the concrete storm sewer inlets and basins and these items are now being fabricated in Springfield and being prepared for initial shipment to Branson in approximately 10 days. In addition, the new waterline materials, pipeline, valves and fittings have all been ordered and they are now being prepared for shipment to Branson so the waterline installation can begin. The subcontractor who will be installing the new decorative fence rails along the Pacific Street handicapped walkway is working to finish the details of his material orders. The subcontractor who will be installing the trees, shrubs and plantings is working to make sure that the healthiest plants will be available for optimum planting times in the early spring of 2015. Although there may not yet be the rumble of construction underway, be assured that behind the scenes everything is coming together to make this project a reality.

PERMIT PARKING

The Branson Board of Aldermen has revised the city parking regulations to make the top deck of the Reish parking garage restricted to "Permit Parking Only". The Downtown Branson Betterment Association will be providing vouchers which will then be turned in to the City of Branson Finance Department for purchase of the permit. Permits will hang from rearview mirrors and a 1-year permit can be purchased for only \$60, which is less than 17¢ per day. The initial permits will be offered to the businesses located within the boundaries of the Phase 1 streetscape project. After those businesses have had the opportunity to obtain a permit, permits will be available

for all other businesses downtown. Contact the DBBA at 334-1548 for further details or to obtain a voucher.

EXPANDED PARKING RESTRICTIONS

In an effort to further assist the businesses downtown during the upcoming construction project, the Branson Board of Aldermen will be adding two additional areas of restricted parking times. The areas are (1) the north side of College Street between Sycamore and Commercial and (2) the east side of Second Street from College north to the alley. These areas will have parking time limits identical to the other streets in downtown which limit parking to 2-hours only between the times of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact City Engineer, David Miller at 417-337-8559.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

The contractor is now in the process of establishing a detailed work schedule for the entire Phase 1 project. There are some basic scheduling details that are already known. One of the first things that will be undertaken is the construction of the handicapped accessible "switchback" sidewalk on the northeast corner of Pacific at Veterans Blvd. The first major work effort will be the placement of the waterline in the middle of the roadways because it is deeper than other utility lines so it must be placed first. As the waterline is installed, the contractor will move his operations down the roadways refilling the trench as he goes. Any holes will be backfilled at night and then the excavation and waterline installation will continue the next morning. There will be some short-term blockages of traffic lanes and parking spaces as the work moves down the road. Immediately after the waterline is complete, the installation of the storm sewers will begin. With good weather, the entire waterline and storm sewer should be complete before Christmas. The contractor can then begin the actual staging of the various sidewalk and pavement replacement.

The drawing to the left shows the changes (highlighted in red) to the restricted parking for both College St. and 2nd St.

