

Fishinger Road Phase II Reconstruction FAQ

FRA - Fishinger Road Phase II Improvements (PID 111991)

Project Overview

Fishinger Road is a major east-west collector road through the City of Upper Arlington. It was last reconstructed in 1962 and connects residential, commercial, and school property. This project begins just west of Mountview Rd. and ends at the Riverside Drive intersection. The project will include replacing the pavement and curbs, adding a 5-ft sidewalk to the south and an 8-ft sidewalk to the north side of the road, and adding street trees and decorative lighting. To increase awareness of bicyclists, the project will add "Bikes May Use the Full Lane" signage to the length of the project. In addition, the existing water main will be replaced within the project limits. It is anticipated construction will begin in late 2023.

Why is the City of Upper Arlington doing this project?

Fishinger Road has not been reconstructed since 1962 and has deteriorated to the point that it needs to be reconstructed. The Tremont corridor is not pedestrian or bicycle friendly and does not meet ADA or community standards.

How will the City keep residents informed about the work progress and impacts?

The Engineering Division will be issuing occasional Focus-On notices (similar to the recent invitation to the public meeting) throughout the project to keep residents informed. You can follow the City's Facebook Page and sign up for Fishinger Rd. construction updates from the City website. The City plans on emailing a weekly progress report to those who sign up. Finally, you can contact the City's project representative at any time during the project.

Will part of the roadway be closed during construction? Will the businesses in this area be affected?

It is anticipated that one lane, in each direction, of traffic will be maintained during construction. Access to all properties along Fishinger Rd. will be maintained. If one entrance is closed, it may be possible to install way-finding signs so customers can navigate through the project to a secondary entrance location.

When traffic lanes are closed in the southern two lanes, Dorchester Road, Ramsgate Road, and Sunset Drive will be closed off from Fishinger Road. Kioka Avenue will remain open, but when work is done in the intersection, Sunset Drive will be open.

When traffic lanes are closed in the northern two lanes, Surrey Hill Place, Center Drive, and Fairlington Drive will be closed off from Fishinger Road. Kioka Avenue will remain open, but when work is done in the intersection, Fairlington Road will be open.

How much property will you be taking from me? Am I losing any trees or landscaping?

The vast majority of this project will remain within the existing right-of-way. Over the past few months the City has proactively worked with certain residents to acquire additional right-of-way where necessary, this process is complete and no additional right-of-way is necessary. Landscaping and trees within the right-of-way may need to be removed in order to construct portions of this project. Property owners with landscaping that is not naturally growing have been previously notified of the need to remove these items if they interfere with the proposed improvements. This project will remove some trees within the right-of-way, these have been

identified on the plans being presented. As the private utilities relocate their facilities they may need to remove additional trees within the right-of-way, these utilities will work directly with affected residents on these removals.

Will there be a lot of noise and dust during the construction project?

Yes, however, we will do everything possible to minimize the impact of these. We will be using water and other dust control methods to hold down dust but if we have an unusually dry summer, there isn't much else that can be done.

Will the construction work affect trash pickup, deliveries, bus routes, or emergency services like police and fire?

No, your trash pickup date will remain the same. Also, the roadway will be maintained for deliveries, bus traffic, and emergency vehicles at all times. Upper Arlington Police and Fire crews know that they can drive through the construction zone any time of day or night to access your property.

Will my driveway be impacted? Will I be notified when the construction impacts my drive?

For property owners within the corridor, new concrete aprons will need to be constructed. There will be several times during the project when access to a private driveway may be prohibited. The longest time will be when the concrete curb and apron at a driveway entrance are installed and needs to cure for up to 7 days. During this period, property owners will have to find parking on one of the adjacent side streets. Many residents on past projects have parked on the nearest street behind their house so they could walk through their backyard (and the neighbor's backyard) to get to their vehicles. If you have disabilities that prevent you from walking to an adjacent street, we will work with you to make other accommodations.

What are the anticipated work hours during construction?

The contractor is only allowed to work between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday. There may be a few occasions when work must be performed at night to lessen the impact on residents, such as work that requires a waterline shutdown. The affected residents will be notified.

Will there be any utility outages during this project?

There may be occasions when there will be planned utility outages such as water. The contractor will work with the City of Columbus Division of Water to minimize the impact to you on those occasions. There may also be occasions when you may encounter temporarily discolored water at your residence due to the contractor's work. You can contact our office or the City of Columbus Division of Water if you have any questions.

How long will the project last?

The project is expected to begin in December 2023 and end in Spring of 2025. The goal will be to have the road open to four lanes by the end of 2024, but final pavement surface and road striping may not occur until after winter.

Will new fire hydrants be installed along with the new waterline?

Yes, due to new requirements the old hydrants will be removed and new ones installed.

Can I get a copy of the construction plan showing the proposed work to be done in front of my property?

Construction plans have been developed and residents can request a copy from the City.

Will my underground sprinkler system or dog fence near the road be damaged?

Yes, if these systems are within the right-of-way. We will be making repairs to these systems (at the City's expense) after the roadway work is completed. However, if you want to maintain these systems throughout the construction project you will need to make arrangements (at your own cost) to have them moved to a point outside of the right-of-way.

Why aren't the utility lines being buried? *Given the significant cost of burying electrical lines, the City is investigating burying lines that are crossing Fishinger Rd.*

Do I need to do anything to my home/property to prepare for this reconstruction project?

No, however, now would be a good time to consider doing any water service replacement work that you may have been putting off. Since you will be getting a new water service connection in the right-of-way, you may want to replace the remaining portion of these between the roadway and your home. You can hire your own contractor to match up with the work to be done by the City. Check your water meter to see what type of water service pipe you have to determine how old it is. If it is copper it has probably been replaced already. If it is a black or gray colored steel pipe it is probably the original water pipe. These older water service pipes have an expected life of around 50 years like the old water main out in the street. Ask the City's project representative for more information.

What if I do not like the location of the new fire hydrants?

Unfortunately, these new locations are based on more stringent requirements from the Fire Department than in the past and there is usually no way to accommodate changes. However, ask us and we will explain why they are proposed to be installed as shown on the plans. If we can work within the new requirements and move one prior to installation, we will do so. Please note that once the hydrant is installed it can only be moved at the resident's expense (where possible).

Email Jen Grabianowski, Management Assistant for the Engineering Division, to be added to the list for email notifications at jgrabianowski@uaoh.net. Please include Fishinger Road Phase 2 in the email to ensure it is added to the correct construction project.

Project Inspector, James Routte can be reached for questions: jroute@uaoh.net or 614-315-4730. To reach the City Office, contact Project Coordinator, Sebastian French at: sfrench@uaoh.net or 614-583-5360.