

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Several months ago the Princeton City Council launched a street improvement project for several streets in the older part of the community. The streets involved in the project are

- North Second, from Princeton Drive north to McKinney Avenue
- South Fourth, from Princeton Drive south to Hazelwood Street
- Main Street, from Second to Third and from Fourth to Sixth
- McKinney Avenue, from Third to Fourth

The street improvements will include grinding up the existing surface and base material, adding base material where needed to insure an 8" subgrade, stabilizing the base material, and paving with an 8" asphalt surface. In most areas the street width will remain the same; widening will occur in a few locations. Most of these streets have narrow rights-of-way and cannot be widened without spending more than what is currently available to the City. Drainage will continue to be handled through open ditches. Existing culverts will remain except in situations where the drainage pipes are undersized or significantly damaged.

The construction work on the streets will start the second week of September. Work will probably start on South Fourth and McKinney Avenue. The two segments of Main will likely be next. North Second cannot be completed until Atmos Energy relocates a gas main. Atmos has promised to have that work completed by the end of September.

Drivers are encouraged to use alternate routes when work is being done on these streets. FM 982 can be used instead of South Fourth. While work on McKinney is being done, Main Street can be used as an alternate east-west route and vice versa. The contractor will be required to keep one lane of traffic open for local resident use but the project can be completed quicker and more effectively if non-local traffic uses other routes.

The Princeton police department will aggressively patrol the work zones. Drivers in areas where "Closed To Through Traffic" signs are posted are subject to a fine of \$177. The street construction periods on each street should last only 2-4 weeks but for your safety and the

safety of the construction workers we ask that you find other routes during the construction period.

The second major street project that is underway is the Monte Carlo Boulevard project. Monte Carlo will ultimately be a six-lane thoroughfare. The first phase of the project involves construction of two lanes from FM 75 (Longneck Road) on the east to Princeton Drive on the west. These two lanes will be constructed on the south and east sides of the existing roadway, except at the east end (each side of Ticky Creek). This east end area will involve construction on the north side of the existing roadway and use of the existing bridge.

The new Monte Carlo Boulevard will be a concrete curb and gutter street with turn lanes and storm drain. An 8 foot wide hike and bike concrete path will be located on the south and east side of the new roadway.

The design/engineering of the new roadway has been completed and the City is currently securing the required right-of-way. A contract is expected to be awarded in late October or early November, with construction to begin around January 1, 2010. Construction will take 9 – 12 months. Traffic will continue to use the existing roadway while the new street is being constructed. However, drivers using Monte Carlo will need to be cautious since there will be heavy equipment and construction traffic in the area during much of 2010.

The existing roadway will be removed from service when the new roadway is opened.

If you have comments or questions regarding the information in this note, please contact me at the email address below.

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