

After a long winter with long cold spells and plenty of snowfall, we are approaching construction season.

The City of Owatonna has a busy construction season planned for the summer of 2018. The following projects are in the works:

- 2018 Street and Utility Project – This project includes reconstruction of Mill Street from Cedar Avenue to School Street. The pavement surface will be removed, bad spots in the curb will be repaired and there is a minor amount of watermain work on Mill Street.
- 2018 Downtown Alley and Parking Lots – The alley between Cedar Avenue and Oak Avenue on the north Side of US Bank will be reconstructed. Owatonna public utilities will be making some modifications to the electrical system in the alley, so the pavement will be removed and OPU will complete their work before the pavement is replaced. The contractor will be responsible for maintaining access to the businesses and they will be made aware of the Crazy Days Celebration. In addition to the work on the alley, the parking lot to the west of Tone Music will be reconstructed at the same time. Other parking lots receiving work on the public lots west of the old Bubba’s Bar and west of the Owatonna Chamber of Commerce.
- Hemlock Avenue – Hemlock Avenue will be reconstructed between 16<sup>th</sup> Street NE and 20<sup>th</sup> Street NE. The storm sewer will be upgraded along with removal and replacement of the street surface. Repairs will be made to the concrete curb as necessary. The sections from 14<sup>th</sup> Street to 16<sup>th</sup> Street and from 20<sup>th</sup> Street to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street will receive an overlay.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Street SW concrete repair and trail. The concrete pavement on 18<sup>th</sup> Street SW will be repaired as needed. This work is called concrete pavement rehabilitation abbreviated as CPR. In addition to the concrete work on the street, a new bituminous trail will connect from Linn Avenue to the Kaplan’s Woods parking lot. Tree removal for the trail has already begun. This will be a nice connection between Linn Avenue and the existing trail system.
- Park Drive – The concrete pavement in Park Drive is almost 50 years old. The roadway will be reconstructed from St. John Drive to 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW and from 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW to 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW. The City is working to eliminate the offset in Park Drive at 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue by realigning the portion to the east of 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. In addition to the concrete pavement reconstruction, OPU is planning to install a new watermain from the tower location to Bridge Street. The new watermain will help for future needs of the industrial park.
- McKinley Street concrete repair – the parking lane on the north side of McKinley Street between Cedar and Elm has sunk, resulting in an unsafe condition for the sidewalk adjacent to Roosevelt. This area is used by the School District as a bus transfer area and needs to have sidewalk that is up to code. The City is working with the School District to replace the curb, sidewalk and parking lane of the street. In addition, curb repairs will be completed on the south side of McKinley street. The work will be completed during summer break so it doesn’t conflict with school operations.

- Mosher Avenue Sanitary Sewer – There is a section of sanitary sewer from McKinley Street to approximately 1,500 feet north along Mosher Avenue that needs replacement. The sewer will be placed in the east boulevard of Mosher Avenue.
- Kohlmeir Drive, which is the entrance to the beach at Lake Kohlmeir will be reconstructed. The proposed work includes reconstruction of the trail and removal of the retaining wall and overlay of the existing parking lot. The work is expected to be completed after labor day in order to reduce the impact to people using the beach.
- CPR – CSAH 45 and 19. Steele County and the City are working together to bring improvements to CSAH 45 (Oak Avenue) from Holly Street to School Street and from Oak Avenue to Willow Street on CSAH 19 (Rose Street). The work will repair deteriorated areas of pavement and prolong the life of the roadways for approximately 20 years.

As you can see, the City of Owatonna will be a busy place for road construction in 2018. We appreciate everyone's patience with the construction work and look forward to delivering cost effective street improvements for the City. Please contact the engineering department at 507-444-4350 with any questions or concerns.