

# 1st Street announces numerous updates

1st Street updates are as following:

- Power Construction has been completing grading work for Building 7A (Harris Bank), the parking lot and the new Blue Goose. The pad for the new Blue Goose store should be poured next week.

- Work on the water main on 1st and IL Streets is complete, and the testing will be scheduled.

- Excavation for the three siphon boxes on Illinois St. started this week.

- Sanitary sewer work west of 1st St. toward Rte. 31 will start early next week and close this section of Illinois (it is currently open).

- The traffic signals at 1st St. and IL are currently out as the contractor is replacing the underground wires. They will return to flashing red next week.

- The striping for 1st St. and the IL St. parking lot (SW corner) has been delayed due to the weather. The striping

material relies on heat to adhere, and the outside temperature needs to reach at least 50 to ensure it sticks to the pavement.

- The overlay restoration for the north end of 1st St. (currently gravel) may start in possibly two weeks.

- The April 19 weekly meeting, 8 a.m. in the Council Chambers, has been designated to discuss the Rte. 31 closure coming in May. Those affected by this closure are encouraged to attend to ensure everyone understands the work planned, detour routes, signage, etc.

- City staff met to discuss parking in the First Street area. The Public Works office put together a survey of downtown parking spaces for each phase of the project. The City is pursuing the design for a number of short-term parking spaces in the alleyway on the

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south side of the Main Street businesses between 1st and 2nd Streets. The number of spaces and time limits are still under review. The developer has been asked to consider phasing the buildings along the river to allow for temporary parking until the parking deck is completed. Physical and economic issues were identified, although it is under consideration by the developer. Power Construction is proceeding with the Blue Goose foundation and parking lot. If all goes as planned, the parking lot will be completed first and may be open to public parking as early as July until the store is completed. City staff has several things on which to follow up regarding parking, such as time limits. Once a parking plan for the various phases of the project has been finalized, it will be shared with affected businesses and the community.

- The new signs for the 1st Street area should be done by early next week (Tuesday). Public Works staff is working on a schedule to install the signs as soon as they are completed. As soon as we know the scheduling for installing the signs, a special e-mail will be sent. The signs took longer than usual to manufacture because they will be in full color (the City's on-site sign shop is not able to screen print colors and logos onto signs).

- The groundbreaking celebration

for the new Blue Goose Supermarket will be April 26, 11 a.m. Those in attendance are invited to lunch at the current Blue Goose store after the ceremony at the new location.

## A Look Ahead

- The City's Electric Utility will be replacing the electric lines on Indiana St. and the foot bridge with underground lines. The schedule will be announced soon.

- Plans for the parking deck have been submitted and are under review by City staff. The review process will take between 30 and 60 days, depending on the condition of the plans.

- Exterior work on the Milestone Row building should take another three weeks, depending on the weather. Once the exterior work is complete, the large crane equipment will be removed from the street and the work will move to the interior of the building. The curbs and on-street parking will be completed later and in coordination with the City's project to reconstruct 1st Street.

- The last phase of the river front project is waiting for the Fox River level to recede. The rock materials for this last phase have been moved to the Public Works garage temporarily until the project can proceed. City staff and the contractor check the river level regularly and will complete the last phase of this project as soon as possible.

Questions or comments about the First Street may be directed to the First Street hotline at 762-7097 or email at [1stStreet@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:1stStreet@stcharlesil.gov).