

**Shepherd Drive Drainage and Paving Project**  
**Oscar Renda Contracting, Inc. for the City of Houston**  
**FAQ SHEET**

**1. What streets will this project cover?**

Shepherd Drive will be under construction for utilities and new pavement from Westheimer to Chilton/West Dallas intersection. The northbound lanes of Shepherd Drive from W. Dallas to Allen Parkway will receive concrete pavement repair while the southbound lanes from Kirby to Chilton will be milled 2-inches and have new asphalt pavement. The major portion of the underground utilities will be the tunneling of an 84-inch storm sewer to Buffalo Bayou. A short section of Westheimer will be under construction. The westbound lanes of Westheimer will be closed to construct underground utilities from McDuffie to Shepherd Drive.

**2. Whom do we contact for emergencies and general questions?**

[PWECIP@houstontx.gov](mailto:PWECIP@houstontx.gov)

Oscar Renda – Tom Gould, Project Superintendent – 623-703-2012

Oscar Renda – Bart Adams, Project Manager – 817-789-0832

Huitt-Zollars, Inc. – Helen Stallkamp, Construction Manager – 713-569-2032

Jody Craze -- City of Houston Public Works & Engineering -- 832-395-2392

**3. When will the project begin and end?**

The project will begin on August 4, 2014 and last for 370 days till August 9, 2015.

**4. Will construction work affect areas of Shepherd Drive at different times?**

There are three main phases affecting the traveling public. Low profile concrete barriers will be used to block traffic from the construction areas. The first phase will close down the south bound lanes of Shepherd Drive and move traffic to the existing north bound lanes and provide for one lane in each direction. The second phase will close the middle section of Shepherd Drive and provide one north bound and south bound lane on either side of the closed center section. The last phase will close the north bound lanes of Shepherd Drive and move traffic to the existing south bound lanes and provide one lane in each direction.

**5. Where on Shepherd will this project begin?**

The south bound lanes of Shepherd will be closed starting August 4, 2014 according to the first phase. Work will start on Shepherd at the intersection of Avalon and proceed south to Westheimer. Then work will proceed along Westheimer to McDuffie. After the work is completed on Westheimer, the work will pick back up on Shepherd Drive at Avalon and move north to Chilton intersection.

**6. How can side streets and businesses be accessed?**

Spaces in the low profile concrete barriers will be opened at intersections and controlled openings for business access. Construction work prohibits closing two consecutive intersections at a time. Work on signalized intersections will be conducted during the weekends and at night.

**7. How fast will the work proceed?**

Between 400 to 800 feet of roadway will be opened up at a time. High strength fast curing concrete will be used to return traffic quickly to driveways.

**8. Why will half of the roadway be blocked?**

To establish a safe construction zone for the work to be performed.

**9. Will any work be performed on a 24 hour basis?**

Work on Shepherd Drive from Avalon south to Westheimer and work on Westheimer will be conducted 24 (twenty-four) hours a day and 7 (seven) days a week. The City of Houston may grant 24 hour periods of work due to special construction needs during the project.

**10. What are the normal work weekday and weekend hours?**

Work other than that listed above will generally run from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm 7 (seven) days a week.

**11. Will traffic signal patterns during construction be different from the current signals?**

Temporary signals with new sequences will be installed. Signal heads will be shifted to adjust to the detour travel lanes. New traffic signals will be installed after the project is completed.

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**FAQ SHEET**

**12. Is there a timeline available describing the progress and locations of work being performed on this project?**

The three main traffic detour phases will cover the following periods:

South bound lanes closed (west side of Shepherd Drive) - Aug. 4, 2014 to Jan. 11, 2015

Center section of Shepherd Drive closed- Jan. 12, 2015 to Mar. 26, 2015

North bound lanes closed (east side of Shepherd Drive) – Mar. 27, 2015 to Aug. 8, 2015

**13. Will there be notification signs to inform motorists of road conditions and detours?**

Signs will be posted a minimum of 2 days prior pending intersection closures and weekly updates on the website. Some alerts may be posted daily on the website.

**14. Will my utilities be cut off? If so, how far in advance will I be notified, and how long will they be turned off? Whom should I contact to have utilities restored?**

Water service will be turned off to make connections from the old lines to the new lines. Notices will be given via a door hanger two days prior to the disruption of service. This work should take around 4 hours to complete. Service will also be lost when the contractor transfers your old water service line to the new water main. The contractor will contact you at least 24 hours prior to this transfer. The transfer should only take about 1 hour. Sanitary sewer service will also be lost when the contractor transfers the service line to the new sanitary sewer. This should only take about 2 hours.

**15. How will drainage be affected while the project is under construction?**

The contractor is responsible for maintaining adequate drainage throughout the construction. Drainage facilities will be protected during construction and by-passes installed so the system will operate the same as existing during the upgrade.

**16. In what areas of the project will the driveway aprons and sidewalks be reconstructed?**

Driveways will be replaced within the City right-of-way. There may be some instances that the contractor may have to access private property in order to properly transition driveway slopes into the street. If the contractor has to access private property to perform this work, the contractor will notify the property owner and request a right-of-entry into the property. Some sidewalks will be replaced along the project to comply with accessibility requirements.

**17. If I have a decorative driveway or sidewalk in the public right-of-way, whom do I contact for reconstruction?**

Oscar Renda will pour the concrete for the driveway and sidewalk within the public right-of-way to the proper design and elevation. The property owner may coordinate with Oscar Renda to have their private contractor on site at the appropriate time to install a finish to the newly poured concrete installed by Oscar Renda.

**18. Should I take photos of my property prior to construction?**

Oscar Renda has taken photos of the existing conditions of the public right-of-way, which is from the back of the sidewalk to the curb. Additional photographs of your property are welcomed.

**19. Will I lose access to my driveway? If so, for how long and when will I be notified?**

The access to your driveway will be blocked during the demolition, layout and pouring of the new concrete. This process could take from one to three days. Businesses could require longer times due to other utility conflicts. A minimum of two day notice with a door hanger will be given along with information on temporary parking sites if required. High strength fast setting concrete will be used to allow access within one half day after pouring the concrete.

**20. Will trucks be staging on the residential streets?**

Oscar Renda will be using areas blocked on Shepherd Drive for staging and employee parking to keep the equipment and vehicles out of the neighborhood.

**21. What will happen to trees, other landscaping, planters, signs and irrigation located in the public right-of-way?**

Oscar Renda will be protecting the trees within the public right-of-way in accordance with the project plans. Other improvements such as landscaping, planters, signs, yard art located on or

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**FAQ SHEET**

over the sidewalk or in the area between the sidewalk and the curb should be removed by the property owner prior to construction. These items are encroaching on public right-of-way and the contractor's work area. Vegetation will be trimmed to allow the installation of new sidewalks if it overhangs or interferes with the proposed improvements. Notify Oscar Renda of the location of any irrigation systems and shut the supply off to these sprinklers to minimize damage. Oscar Renda will repair any irrigation systems within the right-of-way but may have to modify the systems if it interferes with the proposed improvements.

**22. Will any work be performed on my property? If so, how far in from the right-of-way?**

It is not anticipated that Oscar Renda will be working on private property. However, if it is necessary to transition a private driveway to the grade of the new driveway in the public right-of-way, a transition section may be required to make a smooth transition. The contractor will request a right-of-entry prior to working on any private property.

**23. Whom do I contact if I believe that my driveway/sidewalk is not reconstructed properly?**

For any concerns or problems call the contacts listed in FAQ No. 13 above.

**24. Will emergency services or Metro be affected?**

Emergency services have been notified and access will be provided for their vehicles. Coordination with Metro will be continuous as temporary bus stops will be established to maintain service during the length of the project.

**25. Work during the Holidays?**

Oscar Renda will observe Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day, Memorial Day and Labor Day except for the tunneling operation which requires continuous operation.

**26. Are there any incentives or financial penalties if the project is completed before or after schedule?**

Oscar Renda will receive an incentive of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) per day if the project is completed prior to the time of the contract and will be assessed a disincentive of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) per day plus \$1,500.00 (fifteen hundred dollars) per day in liquidated damages for every day over the contract time.