



Department of Public Utilities

EMERGENCY Sanitary Sewer Replacement Work – Forest Hill Avenue

Project Information

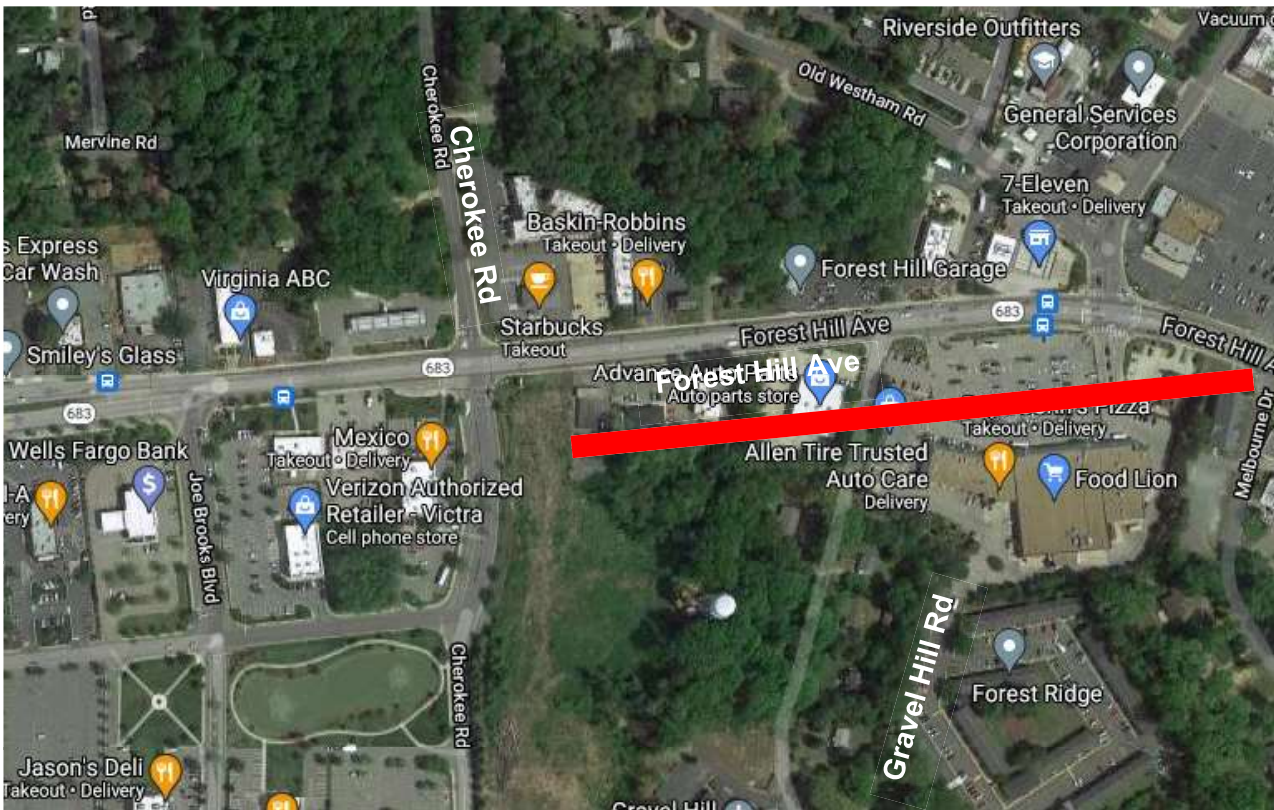
The City of Richmond will be replacing failed sewer lines along the 6800 through 7100 blocks of Forest Hill Avenue between Joe Brooks Boulevard and Hathaway Road. Work will continue to replace rapidly deteriorating sewer lines that are actively failing and compromising the roadway and will be phased as construction design and resources are added. **Portions of this work are already in process due to emergency repairs, with the entire project anticipated to be complete by December 2024.** Please reference the highlighted area in the map below for the limits of the worksite.

Work will require that the eastbound traffic lanes of Forest Hill Avenue be closed between Cherokee Road and Gravel Hill Road. Both eastbound and westbound lanes of Forest Hill Avenue traffic will share use of westbound lanes for the duration of the project. Access to businesses on Forest Hill Avenue will remain open during construction.

The detour will remain in place permanently until project completion. Work hours are scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. During the work there will be large trucks and other construction equipment operating daily, which will result in an increased level of noise during working hours. Variable message boards will be installed to direct traffic.

Project Schedule

This work began April 2024 with the temporary emergency work and is anticipated to continue through the end of 2024, barring any weather delays or other unforeseen circumstances. This work will be completed in phases, with Phase 1 work continuing through November 2024. Updates on future phases will be provided once design details and impacts are available.



Each business will be notified a minimum of 48 hours prior to any work commencing on their respective sewer service lateral that is anticipated to impact their sewer service. This notice will be given via a “door hanger” style tag that will be hand delivered to the residents on an as needed basis.

Sewer Replacement FAQs

What is the purpose of the project?

To replace a failed sewer main laterals. Most sewers were installed in the early 1900’s and have deteriorated to the point that they have begun to leak, have failed (collapsed), or are at risk of failure. If not addressed, settling of road surfaces, back-ups, and other problems may occur.

How will traffic be affected?

Both eastbound lanes between Joe Brooks Boulevard and Melbourne Drive will be closed for the duration of the project. Eastbound traffic will be detoured into the designated westbound lane. Access to all businesses in the work area will be maintained for the duration of the project. Lighted Traffic Boards will be posted at each end of the project to alert vehicles of the changes to thru traffic.

Are all these roadway closures really needed?

Yes. The pipes have failed across various segments of the roadway, and others are in imminent danger of failure. For the safety of the traveling public, these closures are needed as there is a huge probability of the roadway collapsing if vehicular traffic were maintained.

Will sidewalks be impacted?

A few portions of the sidewalk will be impacted by this work, with detour routes in place.

Will GRTC bus service be impacted?

Yes, there are several GRTC bus stops in this work zone. Alternate routes are available on the GRTC website, at ridegrtc.com.

How long will the project take?

This project is scheduled to take approximately six months to complete. Work will be continuous, Monday - Friday, unless impacted by weather, equipment failure or other unforeseen circumstances.

What should commuters traveling into the City from Chesterfield do?

Commuters from Chesterfield County are encouraged to detour via the Jahnke Road exit from Chippenham Parkway to avoid the congestion on Forest Hill Avenue.

How will this project affect my sewer service, and how will I be notified?

Our goal is to minimize the impact on properties to the extent possible. As the project commences, the contractor will notify property owners via door hanger notices prior to work starting on your sewer service. There may be times when you are asked to limit or reduce the amount of water you discharge to the sewer. A separate door hanger or verbal notification from the contractor will advise you when your sewer service is going to be affected.

Will traffic be redirected through adjacent residential streets?

No. "No Thru Traffic" signs will be posted at the entrance to all neighborhood roads. As needed, a police may be present to help modify driving behaviors.

How is this work being funded?

The Department of Public Utilities will use existing budget dollars to make the repairs and restore the road back to its normal condition.

If you have questions or comments about this project, please contact the Department of Public Utilities:

Peter Dunford

Construction Manager, Jacobs
(804) 404-3516
Pete.Dunford@Jacobs.com

Susan Hamilton

Project Manager, Department of Public Utilities
(804) 646-1394
Susan.Hamilton@RVA.gov

Media Contact:

Rhonda Johnson
Public Information Manager, Sr.
(804) 646-5463
Rhonda.Johnson@RVA.gov