Isiah Leggett
County Executive

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWBRIDGE DRIVE PROJECT UPDATE

November 26, 2014

Arthur Holmes, Jr.
Director

Dear Resident:

This letter is to provide an update on the drainage improvement project along Newbridge Drive being managed by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT).

Overall construction is nearing completion and Newbridge Drive is expected to be reopened to through traffic by mid-December. However, several weeks of waterline work will remain until spring and will resume when weather conditions are more favorable. Staging this work will minimize the duration of the overall road closure, mitigate future weather impacts and assure open access over the winter months including the provision of winter plow operations and resumption of school bus routing.

Wet weather, wet soils and unsuitable site conditions have resulted in construction schedule impacts beyond the control of MCDOT and its contractor. To minimize further schedule impacts, MCDOT will complete all structural work and drainage improvements, provide temporary paving, and reopen Newbridge Drive to traffic by December 15. The remaining waterline work, roughly 2-weeks in duration, will resume in the spring 2015.

Work has been progressing steadily onsite. Installation of the new triple-cell concrete culverts is complete. Likewise, the new concrete headwalls on both the upstream and downstream ends of the new culverts are complete. Several underground utility lines, uncovered during construction, have been restored to original locations. Work to restore the 20-inch waterline to its preconstruction condition remains to be completed and will be addressed in the spring 2015 in order to mitigate further weather related impacts. Water service will remain "as-is" and not be interrupted over the winter.

The contractor is currently constructing plunge pools in the stream bed, an environmental enhancement at the downstream end of the culverts, in accordance with details provided by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Plunge pools will provide for a new habitat supporting aquatic life and promoting an environment for reproduction and proliferation of aquatic life and other vertebra. This will result in an overall improvement to the health of the stream.

DOT remains committed to reopening Newbridge Drive for resumption of through access over the winter months with a special emphasis on the upcoming road plowing operations. We will continue to make every effort to expedite the remaining work. A Newsletter will be sent out it the spring 2015, regarding the remaining waterline work. Until then, the goal is to reopen the road over the winter months.

Please feel free to contact me at 240-777-7607 or Josh Faust, Public Outreach Manager, Division of Highway Services, at 240-777-7642, should you need additional information.

We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
R. Keith Compton, Chief

Office of the Director

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