

**General Summary of Pre-construction Informational Meeting  
Bigfork Stormwater Project-Grand Drive Improvements  
February 16, 2011**

Meeting Attendees: Brett Walcheck & Alan Wendt (48 North); Dave Prunty & Ovila Byrd (Flathead County Rd Dept); Pam Holmquist (Flathead County Commissioner), Debbie Pierson (Flathead County Grant Support); Paul Kirby, Sam Weyers, Val White (Nelcon, Inc); Cody Sandon (Sandon Construction); Lindsay Volpe, Zach Owens (Dept of Natural Resources & Conservation)

Others in Attendance: Tom Weller & Paul Rana (Bigfork Stormwater Advisory Committee-BSAC); Jasmine Linabary (Bigfork Eagle); Carl Easton (Chris' Tea Cottage); Brad Stodghill (UPS Store); David May & Suzie Keenan (Bigfork Inn); Bruce Solberg (Bigfork Chamber); Julie Spencer (Bigfork Water & Sewer District); Tamara Riecke (Riecke's Bayside Gallery); Woody Downs (Blush Salon); Michael Fraser (Klink, Clausen, Anderson); Wayne Loeffler (Bigfork Fire Dept.); Railene Gordon Jones (Bigfork Frame Shop); Tony Martin (Flathead Insurance); Bill Meyers (Bayside Park & Marine Center, LLC)

The Pre-construction informational meeting was held next to the gravel parking lot across from the access to the county dock, in front of the Grand Hotel, Bigfork. Brett Walcheck from 48 North PC facilitated the meeting. Introductions were made including 48 North Staff, Nelcon representatives, Flathead County staff and representatives from the DNRC RRGL funding program. The meeting followed the outline of the Pre-construction meeting agenda. The project was explained to be a Stormwater System Improvement project impacting Grand Drive from Marina Cay to Electric Avenue. Sequence of events and construction implementation was discussed as well as roles and responsibilities of the contractor, engineering firm and Flathead County Staff. (Items in the Pre-construction document were read aloud to the group attending the meeting. Forms required to be signed and submitted by the contractor were discussed.)

Copies of the Pre-construction meeting were given to the contractor, DNRC and several meeting participants. A copy of the Pre-construction packet will be kept at UPS Store for public viewing (439 Grand Drive #101, Bigfork, MT). Additionally, the information will be posted on the Flathead County webpage under the Commissioner tab and can be referenced at [www.flathead.mt.gov/commissioner](http://www.flathead.mt.gov/commissioner).

It was discussed that the contractor made a request to initiate the installation of the major filtration components at Grand Drive and Lake Avenue as soon as possible. (Potentially starting as soon as the week of February 21, 2011.) Flathead County was willing to allow this to help reduce the length of time the project will impact Bigfork businesses during peak season. The remainder of the system (conveyance and filter components) along Grand Drive would be installed as soon as weather permits in the spring. There will be a break between the installation of the major components and the remainder of the project, it is anticipated that once each segment is started it will be

completed on a consecutive schedule. The section of road that is disturbed following the installation of the major components will be maintained by Nelcon. Road snow plowing will be continued by Flathead County.

After the pre-construction packet items were read and reviewed, a question and response period occurred.

(Q)

Tammie Rieke asked if they would need to cancel the Mother's Day Art Walk.

(R)

The contractor is hoping to finish the remaining portion of the project in early spring with a 30 day projected timeline. A specific construction date for the remainder of the project cannot be determined as it is dependant on spring weather. Everyone is interested in getting this completed as quickly as possible. Brett suggested Tammie contact him to discuss further as they were not aware of this event when putting together the schedule.

(Q)

Suzie Keenan and Tammie Rieke asked how the road closures would impact delivery trucks to downtown businesses. Semi trucks don't use the Bridge over Swan River on Bridge Street.

(R)

It was discussed that complete road closures would be limited to an approximate 4-6 hour window and the first segment of the project (installation of the major filtration components) was projected to be completed in 7 days. Delivery trucks will have access via one lane on Grand with the exception of when the crane and large equipment is in place and the components are set. The construction traffic plan is being finalized and an alternative route is being explored to utilize during limited road closures. Flaggers and signage will be provided to help control traffic.

Nelcon has extensive experience with construction and will do their best to minimize impacts from the construction to local businesses; however, the project cannot be completed without bringing in large equipment and initiating short term road closures. Mark Langlois, a local community volunteer will be visiting businesses daily during construction and will act as a liaison to the contractor and Flathead County.

(Q)

What days of the week construction will occur?

(R)

Construction will occur Monday through Friday approximately 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, but could vary. Engineer explained that per the contract documents the contractor is permitted to work between the hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

(Q)

Tammie Reike and Carl Easton asked when work would be completed on Electric Avenue. Tammie expressed that she has flooding issues in the basement of her business and that she would love to see that fixed.

(R)

Design plans for the next phase which includes Electric Avenue are near completion, however the construction portion cannot occur until funding is secured.

(Q)

Carl Easton asked about the August completion date listed in the letter that went out to businesses/property owners.

(R) It was explained that date was for the chip sealing component only. The construction portion is projected to be finalized in mid to late spring (possibly by April 15, 2011). The road will be paved at that point, however, Flathead County is anticipating applying the chip seal in mid August to work around community events. The chip seal application is typically a two day process.

(Q)

Paul Rana asked if there would be construction signage on Hwy 35.

(R)

Signage will be posted on Grand and on Bridge Street, but not likely on the highway.

Following the question and response segment, the date/time/location of the next Bigfork Stormwater Advisory Committee (BSAC) Meeting was explained to the pre-conference meeting attendees who were encouraged to attend to learn additional information about the overall Bigfork Stormwater Project. An e-mail will be sent to meeting attendees with the BSAC Meeting information. The next BSAC meeting will be held: 2/23/11, 12:30 pm at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork.