

# CITY OF MARCO ISLAND

50 Bald Eagle Drive  
Marco Island, Florida 34145  
239-389-5000



March 1, 2012

Re: Property Owners in the Estates Sewer Assessment District

Dear Estates Property/Homeowner:



The Estates Sewer District Construction will begin in early April 2012. The City's contractor is Mitchell & Stark Construction, Inc. **The City plans to host an Open House reception on Tuesday March 20th, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at 51 Bald Eagle Drive (Police Building Lobby). This Open House is an opportunity for Estates residents to view sewer design plans for their street, understand the construction methods to be used, see an estimated construction schedule, get information on costs and ask questions of staff.**

Prior to actually beginning work in the street, residents may see the following activities:

- Clean-out location markings (green paint on sidewalks),
- Surveyors staking and marking the street & City Right-of-Way (R-O-W),
- Underground utility mark outs (little colored flags and paint markings),
- Gopher Tortoise burrow marking (little pink flags) & relocation activities,
- Silt fence along the R-O-W by vacant lots (to protect Tortoises),
- Well Point installation in the City R-O-W (between sidewalk and Street).
- Turbidity Barrier (Yellow Boom) installation in the canals at outfalls.

Dewatering pumps, tanks, pipes, and equipment will also be set up in the R-O-W along most streets. Dewatering will begin (to remove groundwater) in advance of excavation and will generate water, sand, and silt within the swales. The dewatering process is necessary to provide a safe and stable excavation and roadway. The City has obtained all of the necessary State and local permits for the dewatering process, and discharge of this water is directed into the local canals as required by permit.

The dewatering process may create the release of unpleasant odors due to the natural presence of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) gas in the groundwater. The City has designed and successfully operated a dewatering containment and H<sub>2</sub>S treatment system (big blue tank) which will be used during well point dewatering operations to mitigate these odors.

The sewer construction will begin with the milling and removal of asphalt on one side of the street. Trenching then begins at the Lift Station and proceeds along each street at a variable pace. The typical excavation and construction work zone is generally limited to approximately 300-500 feet in length along each street, with a maximum of two streets under active construction simultaneously. The work zone is expected to be in front of each property for approximately 2 to 4 days in most cases. Where sewer is deeper (near the lift stations) this time may be extended. **Traffic delays and neighborhood detours should be expected during the entire project. Flagmen, signs and message boards will be used to re-**

**direct traffic as needed for public safety.** The City has hired a State Certified Gopher Tortoise consultant (Huckleberry Environmental), who will be working around the Gopher Tortoise lots to protect them from construction activities. This will involve the relocation of some tortoises, mostly in the City R-O-W, and installation of silt fence.

The City is also committed to the protection of any cultural resources that may be found during construction, and have hired a professional Archaeological Consultant (Advanced Archaeology Inc.) who will be working with the contractor to monitor and log the excavations in some areas, and collect samples if found.

Property owners should expect construction vehicle and equipment noise between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Vehicle backup alarms are annoying, but they are required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. **We expect the construction of the entire Estates District to begin in April 2012 and be completed by June 2013. Construction will generally be continuous through this period, (except for Hurricanes) but will move from one street to the next. Periodic updates on the construction status will be posted on the City website, or by Message Board in the local neighborhoods.**

For safety and convenience property owners should:

- Keep driveways clear from the sidewalk to the street.
- Keep vehicles out of the swale areas near the construction zone.
- Use caution for those limited periods when access to driveways may be obstructed. Driveway access will be restored by the end of each work day.
- Use caution when driving near construction vehicles and workers.
- Place trash and recycling containers and cut landscape materials on the side of the street opposite the excavation so Waste Management can have access.
- Drive carefully, watch for construction workers, observe warning signs, and **for your own safety, please obey the flagmen at all times.**

In addition to installing sewer, this project includes upgrades to large diameter water mains on S. Barfield Dr and Watson Rd, which will improve water capacity and flow for the entire District. The project will also add 4-foot wide paved shoulders to S. Barfield Dr, which will be marked as Bike Lanes and improve bicycle safety. Finally, all District streets will receive a fresh Asphalt Overlay and traffic striping after restoration is completed.

The City staff is committed to minimizing the inconveniences that result from the construction. Predicting the exact day work will commence on each street is difficult, however, citizens may check general project status at [www.cityofmarcoisland.com](http://www.cityofmarcoisland.com) (*click...How do I...View...STRP construction status maps*). Contact project manager Jim Miller at 389-5026 for specific construction activity information or to report problems. Damages in the R-O-W caused by construction activities will be repaired by the contractor after ALL sewer construction activities are completed. Please be patient for restoration activities to be completed.

Thank you for your assistance, patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Poteet, Public Works Director