

North Shore to Channel Force Main Sewer Improvement Water Main Replacement and Relocation, and Pavement Rehabilitation Project

(The Embarcadero, Drumm, Spear and Howard Streets)

BACKGROUND

San Francisco's combined sewer system consists of over 1,000 miles of sewers. Much of the city's sewer infrastructure is over 100 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. To deal with serious sewer system challenges including seismic reliability, neighborhood flooding, and sea level rise due to climate change, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is launching the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP). While SSIP will address the long-term needs of our sewer system, the North Shore to Channel Force Main (NSCFM) Project is part of our Wastewater Enterprise Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that addresses the immediate needs of our sewer system.

WHY DO WE NEED THIS PROJECT?

The existing North Shore Force Main (NSFM) is a pressurized sewer pipeline (or force main) that transports combined wastewater (sanitary sewage from homes and businesses and stormwater) in the northeastern part of San Francisco - serving approximately 350,000 people - to the Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant. The existing NSFM is near the end of its useful life and had failed twice in 2008, and most recently in March 2012, and the SFPUC had conducted emergency repairs following each force main failure.

Although the existing force main is in need of rehabilitation, it is the only force main that transports combined wastewater and could not be taken out of service long enough for a complete rehabilitation. Therefore, the purpose of this project is to construct a bypass to the existing force main. The new force main, North Shore to Channel Force Main (NSCFM) will provide a redundant pipeline so that the existing force main can be taken off line for repairs; this redundancy would allow more time to complete repairs without disruption to service or sewage overflows to the bay.

This project will increase sewer system reliability in the area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project consists of construction of a new 3,300-foot-long force main to divert combined wastewater away from the portion of the existing force main that is susceptible to failure, installation of one underground vault and valves for flow control, a temporary sewer flow diversion, replacement/relocation of approximately 1,600 feet of water mains, and repavement of most of the affected streets.

Temporary Sewer (Flow) Diversion – During construction, up to six shutdowns of the existing North Shore Force Main would be required to connect and divert flow to the new force main. In order to

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divert the flow, we would install a **temporary dam** underground and potentially operate portable pumps to **divert sewage flows to local sewers**.

WHERE WILL THE PROJECT TAKE PLACE?

Sewer - Vault and Sewer Force Main Pipe Installation

- The Embarcadero at the former intersection of Jackson Street
- Former Jackson Street from Embarcadero to Drumm St. (underneath the Golden Gateway Tennis & Swimclub)
- Drumm Street, from Jackson to California Streets
- Market St. Pedestrian Plaza, between Drumm and Spear Streets
- Spear Street, from Market to Howard Streets
- Howard Street, from Spear to Steuart Streets

Water Main Replacement and Relocation

- Drumm Street, from Jackson Street to Clay Street
- Spear Street, from Market Street to Mission Street
- Spear Street from mid-block off Mission Street to Howard Street

Pavement Rehabilitation – on most affected streets on project alignment **except** on Drumm Street between Jackson and Washington Streets and the intersection of Spear and Mission Streets.

Please also refer to map

WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION START AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

This project is tentatively planned to start in July 2012, and sewer construction is scheduled to be completed by June 2013; with water main replacement/relocation and pavement work scheduled to be completed by December 2013. Rainy weather may increase the duration of construction.

Holiday Moratorium: No construction will take place on Drumm Street between Clay Street to California Street, Thanksgiving 2012 through January 1, 2013

WHAT ARE THE CONSTRUCTION HOURS?

Typical Construction Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm (*with exceptions below*):

- Drumm Street between Sacramento and California Streets: Weekend work from 9am to 6pm
- The Embarcadero, between Washington and Broadway Streets: 24-hour work for a duration of up to 5 consecutive weeks, and typical construction hours otherwise.

Work schedules will vary in order to reduce impact on transportation and the surrounding community (businesses and residences). Advance notice will be provided in the event there is a need for night and weekend work in other areas.

WHAT TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK SHOULD I EXPECT?

Installation by open-cut excavation (or trenching)

- **Sewer work** on The Embarcadero at the former intersection of Jackson St.; and along Drumm Street, Spear Street and Howard Street
- **Water main replacement/relocation** on Drumm Street, from Jackson Street to Clay Street; Spear Street, from Market Street to Mission Street; Spear Street from mid-block off Mission Street to Howard Street

Trenchless Installation - a technique where the pipelines are installed with minimal disruption to surface by using either pipe-ramming or having workers enter an existing sewer facility and installing the new pipeline by hand.

- **Sewer work** on (the former) Jackson Street from Embarcadero to Drumm Street, and all of the street intersections on Drumm Street from Jackson to Market Street and on Spear Street from Market Street to Howard Street, and at Market Street.

WILL SEWER SERVICE BE INTERRUPTED?

No, sewer service in the area will NOT be interrupted during construction.

WILL WATER SERVICE BE INTERRUPTED?

We may need to temporarily shutdown the water one building at a time while doing the connections to the new water mains. Shutdowns usually occur during the times when the least amount of water is used (generally nighttime); and the duration is approximately 3 to 4 hours.

We will coordinate with properties to minimize impact and will provide advance notice of shutdowns.

PARKING IMPACTS

Street parking will not be allowed near construction zones. “No-parking” signs will be posted 72 hours in advance.

TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS

Streets will stay open for traffic throughout construction, with reduced traffic lanes. Delays can be expected. MUNI buses that run on Spear Street, between Market and Mission Streets, may be re-routed during parts of the construction, and changes to bus stop locations will be posted.

NOISE IMPACTS

Noise will be in compliance with the San Francisco Noise Ordinance.

ODORS

Odor control measures will be in place during construction.

HOW IS THIS PROJECT FUNDED?

This project is made possible through your wastewater service charges.

QUESTIONS?

For public inquiries, contact Idil Bereket, Communications Division, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission at ibereket@sfgov.org or 415-554-0741. You can also call the main line at 415-554-3289 and ask for assistance.

A 30-day and 10-day notice will be distributed prior to construction.

To report sewer emergencies, clogged catch basins (storm drains) or street flooding, call San Francisco’s 3-1-1 or visit the online self service portal at www.sfgov.org/311.