

October 16, 2018



INFORMATION LETTER NO. 2 TAYLOR AVENUE PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL

Dear Project Area Residents and Other Interested Parties:

The construction of the new pedestrian tunnel at Taylor Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad West Line is well underway. Work completed to date includes closure of the existing vehicular tunnel, securing the work site, removal of existing traffic signal equipment, removal of selected brush and trees, relocation of conflicting power and communication utilities, coordination of a temporary removal of the ComEd high voltage lines on the south side of the tracks, installation of temporary railroad embankment support sheeting, and excavation of the ground adjacent to the tunnel site.

The contractor is currently injecting grout into the railroad embankment to fill in any voids beneath the tracks and prevent track settlement during the installation of the steel tunnel. On the north side of the tracks, work is being done in preparation of a thrust restraint wall and platform for the shielded excavator machine which will install the new steel tunnel (pipe).

The installation of the tunnel is scheduled for the weekend of October 26th. **Due to the nature of the work and the least amount of train traffic occurring over the weekend, the work will be performed in a continuous 24-hour operation beginning at approximately 7 pm on Friday, October 26th and continuing through mid-day on Sunday, October 28th.**

The procedure involves operating a shielded excavator machine and powerpack (generator) to push the tunnel through the railroad embankment while excavating the material inside the tunnel, loading the excavated material into trucks and hauling it off site, mobilizing steel tunnel sections to the work site, and operation of a crane. The work will inevitably generate a considerable amount of noise throughout the day and night. We sincerely apologize for any disruptions the work may cause but assure the Public that the continuous operation is necessary to complete the work.

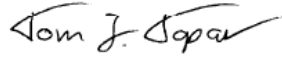
Following the installation of the tunnel, the month of November will involve the construction of the tunnel head walls, removal of the roadway pavement and sidewalk through the existing tunnel, excavation for the new roadway pavement and multi-use path (sidewalk), installation of storm sewer, and commencement of electrical work (lighting & traffic signals).

The schedule currently projects that the electrical work will be completed by early-December with the construction of the roadway and multi-use path pavement commencing in mid-December. Various landscaping, tunnel painting, and headwall staining work items will be completed when weather permits in the spring of 2019; however, these items will not preclude opening of the tunnels to traffic. **In summary, the project is currently on schedule with the opening of the existing tunnel to vehicular traffic and new tunnel to pedestrian traffic anticipated by December 31.**

Safety Reminder: It is always worth the effort to remind everyone that a construction site is a dangerous area, perhaps even more so during the hours the contractor is not actually working in the area. Please make a note to remind yourselves and your children not to attempt to enter the closed off construction areas and the dangers inherent in a construction zone that are present at all times. **While the tunnel installation will be an exciting operation to watch, we kindly ask that the Public maintain a safe distance from the construction zone to allow the work to safely progress.**

If you have any questions about the work, please feel free to contact the Resident Engineer, Joe Franek, by phone at 312-720-0022 or by email at jfranek@benesch.com. I am also available by telephone at 630-547-5520 or by email at ttopor@glenellyn.org. As a reminder, a website www.taylorunderpass.com has been created for the project, including the ability to sign up for the receipt of project updates.

Sincerely,



Tom Topor, PE
Senior Civil Engineer
Glen Ellyn Public Works Department

CC: Administration Village Manager's Office Group; Police: PN, RA; Fire: CC, Admin; Public Works Supervisor Group, Glenbard District 87: LO,CM; Glen Ellyn Park District: DH; Glen Ellyn School District 41: DS