

7th Avenue Reconstruction (15th St. to 19th St.)



Q: What are the limits of the project?

A: *The proposed reconstruction begins west of the intersection of 7th Ave. & 15th St. and ends east of the intersection of 7th Ave. & 18th St.*

Q: What are the proposed improvements?

A: *The proposed improvements include removing and replacing the deteriorated pavement, constructing roundabouts at the 7th Ave./15th St. and 7th Ave./18th St intersections., and replacing sidewalks with ADA compliant decorative sidewalks, placing streetscape amenities including decorative lighting, benches, and landscaping. Roundabouts are planned for the intersection of 7th Ave. & 15th St. and at the intersection of 7th Ave. & 18th St. The existing traffic signals at those intersections will be removed, allowing for more free-flowing traffic.*

Q: What is the total cost of the project?

A: *The preliminary cost estimate for the project is \$3,000,000. This estimate will be refined as the project specifics are developed.*

Q: How will the project be funded?

A: *The City was awarded \$3,000,000 from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity through their Rebuild Downtown and Main Streets grant program. This funding will be combined with Motor Fuel Tax and local funding to complete the project.*

Q: Will the City need to acquire right-of-way to complete the project?

A: *Since the corridor will be reduced to 2 lanes of traffic and overall pavement width reduced, the city will not need to acquire additional right-of-way through a majority of the corridor. In order to construct the roundabout at 15th Street, right-of-way will be required at the southeast quadrant of the intersection. There will need to be some temporary construction easements at several locations for sidewalk construction. These locations can be viewed on the public meeting exhibits.*

Q: When will construction start?

A: *Construction work is anticipated to start in the spring of 2025.*

Q: How long will construction last?

A: *It is anticipated that construction will be substantially complete in November 2025 with a few remaining landscape items being completed in the spring of 2026.*

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Q: Will the road be closed during construction, and will a detour route be provided?

A: *A construction staging plan has not been finalized but there it is anticipated road closures will be used to expedite construction and correspondingly reduce construction costs.*

Q: Will I have access to my driveway during construction?

A: *Yes. There will be a short time when concrete has just been poured that access will be limited to allow the new concrete to properly cure. Prior to driveway closures, city staff will notify property owners.*

Q: Is the City coordinating this project with the 16th St. Viaduct Project?

A: *Yes. HEI has been communicating with the City and the engineering firm on the 16th St. Viaduct project to coordinate road closures and detour routes. Details are still being worked out.*

Q: Will parking be eliminated along 7th Street and the side streets?

A: *Some parking will be eliminated due to the construction of the roundabouts. The parking to remain will be more clearly defined utilizing bump outs in the curb.*

Removed Parking Stalls

Location	Number of Stalls
west Corner 15 th St & 7 th Ave	2
west Corner 15 th St & 7 th Ave	1
east Corner 18 th St & 7 th Ave	1
east Corner 18 th At & 7 th Ave	2

New Parking Stalls

Location	Number of Stalls
east Corner 15 th St & 7 th Ave	1

Q: Will I have access to my driveway during construction?

A: *Yes. There will be a short time when concrete has just been poured that access will be limited, generally one week, to allow the new concrete to properly cure. Prior to driveway closures, city staff will notify property owners. There may be a few weeks that driveways will have temporary stone in order to maintain access while waiting for the final concrete to be poured.*

Q: Will the project affect the dog park?

A: *We are working to reduce the impact of construction on the dog park. A portion of the park may be closed during construction for the safety of the pets and construction workers.*