

Business Impact? #WaconiaMinute

Roadway and infrastructure improvements, while necessary, can be a major or minor disturbance for business during the construction process. This summer, starting next week, a main connector to downtown Waconia will be closed until most likely November. Lake Waconia Parkway, which connects 5 major neighborhoods to downtown will be under construction so people in those neighborhoods will need to “go around.” Since I live in one of those neighborhoods, I decided to drive the 2 routes to see how many more Waconia Minutes it would take to get to the Waconia Emagine Theatre from my house. Now it takes me 3 minutes and 4 seconds. It took me 6 extra Waconia minutes – with no traffic – to do the detour. I know when the shutdown actually happens and there is a wait, it will likely be 10 to 15 minutes longer to get to the movie. If you own a business where people need to make appointments, be advised! If you’re on the detour route, you’ll see more eyes on your business.

So – please read through the details below – you’ll have the facts. The detour will be marked, but I wanted you to know what was happening when you hear customers talking about this closure. Let’s keep the talk positive.... New sewer! New Culverts! New Roadway! New Trails! New sidewalk! They’re doing the job all at the same time – which is great – and the detour, well, it’s just not that far. What will you do with your extra #WaconiaMinute?

FROM THE CITY OF WACONIA WEBSITE – www.waconia.org

Infrastructure improvements are planned to be constructed or reconstructed to provide the public with a sustainable system of roads, utilities, trails, and sidewalk to augment the City with greater connectivity among residents, safer traveling for vehicles and pedestrians, and a healthier quality of life. These improvements consist of the following project components:

- Reconstruction of Waconia Parkway North and North Walnut Street (between Scott Lane and West First Street). This includes removing and reconstructing the entire right-of-way and improving the sub-base and existing storm sewer system.
- Trail reconstruction along the north side of Waconia Parkway North and sidewalk reconstruction along the west side of North Walnut Street.
- Sanitary sewer and watermain replacement along Waconia Parkway North and North Walnut Street.
- Reconstruction and extension of the box culvert west of the Lakeview Terrace Boulevard and Waconia Parkway North intersection.
- Storm sewer retrofitting of four outlet structures to Lake Waconia: east of Waconia Parkway North, at North Cedar Street, at North Maple Street, and at North Elm Street.
- The road along with the trail to Cedar Point Park will be closed for the majority of this project.
- Traffic will be detoured to Olive Street, State Hwy 5, Waconia Parkway South, and County Road 10. See the Detour Plan on the “[Project Layout & Images](#)” page for a map of the detour route