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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Sanitary and storm sewer improvement project to begin in Downtown Rochester

April 18, 2019 – ROCHESTER, MINN – The City of Rochester will soon begin sanitary and storm sewer projects under and along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE. These enhancements will improve existing infrastructure and provide additional capacity to support planned development in the Destination Medical Center (DMC) District and southeast Rochester. The project will span the remainder of 2019 and a portion of 2020. The community is encouraged to be aware of potential impacts to the area.

#### Project Timeline

The project is scheduled to begin May 1, 2019 and is expected to be completed by the end of July 2020. The first phase of the project will involve the installation of sanitary sewer improvements along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE from 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE. The second phase of the project will involve the installation of sanitary sewer and storm sewer improvements along 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE. The third phase of the project involves the installation of a new sanitary sewer siphon along the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE Bridge from the Government Center to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE. The fourth and final phase of the project will start May 1, 2020 and will involve installation of sanitary sewer and storm sewer from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE to Broadway Avenue S.

Rochester City Engineer Dillon Dombrovski states, “We appreciate the public’s patience as we complete this important project. Improvements to the sanitary and storm sewers in this area will prevent costly future repairs of aging infrastructure while also providing capacity for our growing community.”

#### Project Impacts

This project will have an impact on those who travel in this corridor. Notifications of traffic control shifts will be distributed via Public Service Announcements and on the City of Rochester Public Works Department website ([www.rochestermn.gov/publicworks](http://www.rochestermn.gov/publicworks)).

Impacts include:

- **Impacts to Rochester Public Library customers:** Rochester Public Library will be open throughout construction. Pedestrians will be able to access the building via skyways and sidewalks. The bookdrop will be temporarily relocated to 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE during the first phase of the project.
- **Impacts to the Mayo Civic Center, Rochester Art Center, and the Rochester Civic Theatre:** These buildings will be open throughout construction. Patrons will need to find alternate parking while the Civic Center Ramp is closed. ADA accessibility remains open on the east side of Civic Center Drive.

- **Impacts to users of the Civic Center Parking Ramp:** The Civic Center Parking Ramp will be closed in May due to the entry/exit being unaccessible. Routine maintenance of the Civic Center Parking Ramp has been scheduled to occur simultaneously in order to reduce the time the ramp is unavailable for use.
- **Impacts to drivers:** Closures of intersections will occur. Travel lanes will be reduced or closed.
- **Impacts to sidewalk and recreational trail users:** Pedestrian access will remain through the area though some sidewalks will be closed. The recreational trails under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE Bridge will have temporary closures when the sanitary sewer siphon is being installed and related work is being done on the bridge that impact trail safety.
- **Impacts to Rochester Public Transit (RPT) Users:** RPT buses will be experience minimal impacts in the first phase of the project. Subsequent phases of the project will require detours and stop relocations or closures. Visit [www.rptride.com](http://www.rptride.com) for complete details on the impacts of the project.

### **Project Costs and Funding**

The estimated cost of this project is \$6.5M. Funding for the project is made possible by DMC State Funds and Sales Tax, as well as sewer and water utility fees.

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## 1st Avenue SE Relief Sewer for the Government Siphon (J7825)

The project will resume in May 2018 and will be completed in July 2020.

The sanitary sewer will be improved along 1st Avenue SE to 2nd Street SE. Additional sanitary and storm sewer improvements will be installed along 2nd Street SE from Broadway to 3rd Avenue SE. A new siphon will be installed along the 3rd Avenue SE Bridge from the Government Center to 2nd Street SE.

### Project Benefits

This project will provide additional sanitary sewer capacity for growth within the Downtown Destination Medical Center (DMC) area and along the 3rd Avenue SE corridor. A poorly functioning and undersized siphon at the Government Center will also be replaced.

### Construction Impacts

Impacts to Rochester Public Library customers:

- Rochester Public Library will be open throughout construction. Pedestrians will be able to access the building via skyways and sidewalks. The bookdrop will be temporarily relocated to 1st Street SE during the first phase of the project.

Impacts to the Mayo Civic Center, Rochester Art Center, and the Rochester Civic Theatre:

- These buildings will be open throughout construction. Patrons will need to find alternate parking while the Civic Center Ramp is closed. ADA accessibility remains open on the east side of Civic Center Drive.

Impacts to users of the Civic Center Parking Ramp:

- The Civic Center Parking Ramp will be closed in May due to the entry/exit being unaccessible. Routine maintenance of the ramp has been scheduled to occur simultaneously in order to reduce the time the ramp is unavailable for use.

Impacts to drivers:

- Closures of intersections will occur. Travel lanes will be reduced or closed.

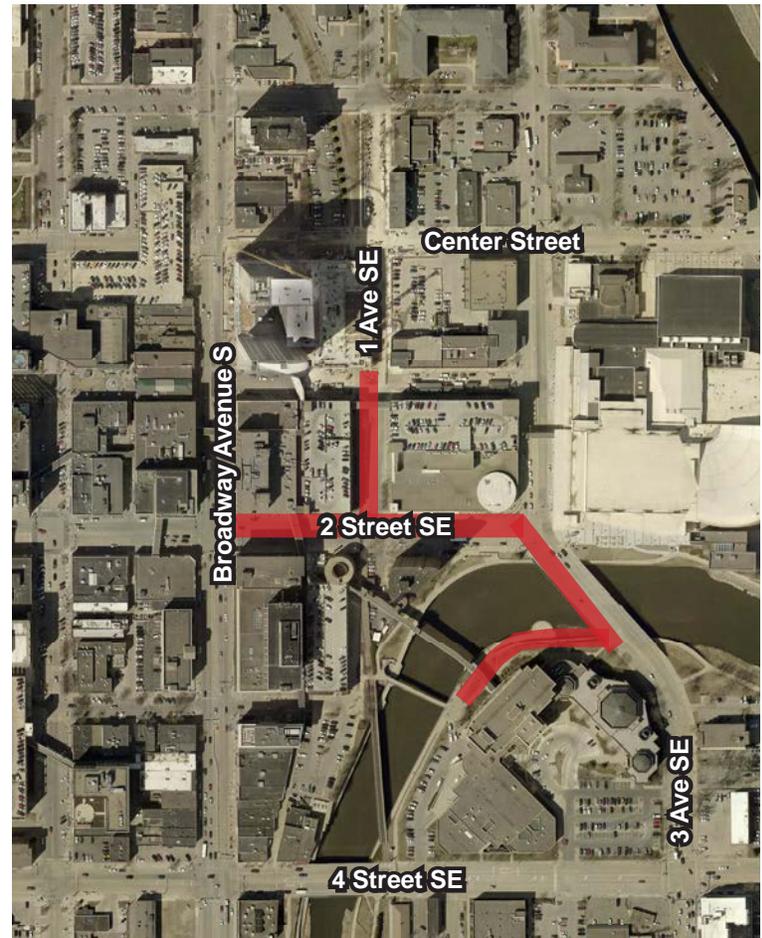
Impacts to sidewalk and recreational trail users:

- Pedestrian access will remain through the area though some sidewalks will be closed. The recreational trails under the 3rd Avenue SE Bridge will have temporary closures when the sanitary sewer siphon is being installed and related work is being done on the bridge that impact trail safety.

Impacts to Rochester Public Transit (RPT) Users:

- RPT buses will experience minimal impacts in the first phase of the project. Subsequent phases of the project will require detours and stop relocations or closures. Visit [www.rpride.com](http://www.rpride.com) for complete details on the impacts of the project.

### Project Location



### Project Cost and Funding

This project will cost \$6.5M and is being funded by DMC State Funds and Sales Tax, and Sewer and Water Utility Funds.

### Project Contacts

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