

Sewer project moving along

By Casey Hans
staff writer

FARMINGTON'S multi-million-dollar sewer improvement project is right on schedule, as contractors move northward from the Farmington Road-Nine Mile area.

As early as today, they plan to begin work in an area that includes Grand River and School, Thomas, Warner and Oakland streets.

"We're not at all behind," said Earl Billing, public services director for the city. "We hope to have all the pipe in the ground by the end of June."

Meanwhile, city officials are asking residents to disregard what they said was misinformation from at least one water quality company soliciting in the area. Both Billing and public safety officials have received inquiries from residents concerned about water safety after receiving calls from water purification companies.

"Apparently people are calling and saying Farmington's water is contaminated because of the sewer project," said public safety director Frank Lauhoff. Billing said the

claims are "absolutely not" true. "This is not affecting the water system at all," he said.

THE PROJECT includes the separation of the city's combined sewers, the improvement of the entire system and the construction of a new 3.2-million-gallon retention basin and a 19.5-million-gallon-per-day pumping station. Voters approved bond money for the project in May of 1989. A low-interest state loan is expected to save taxpayers \$7 million in interest.

The newly separated sewers will keep untreated sewage from being discharged into the Rouge River during peak rain periods — something prohibited by federal and state laws.

The price of the work is currently estimated at \$12.4 million, but bad soil conditions under Grand River could cause the cost to jump as high as \$13.03 million, according to city officials. City manager Robert Deadman has said state highway officials may force the city to use a steel sheeting process along the state trunk line to reinforce the road after the sewer work is done.

How soon the work is finished will depend on the weather.

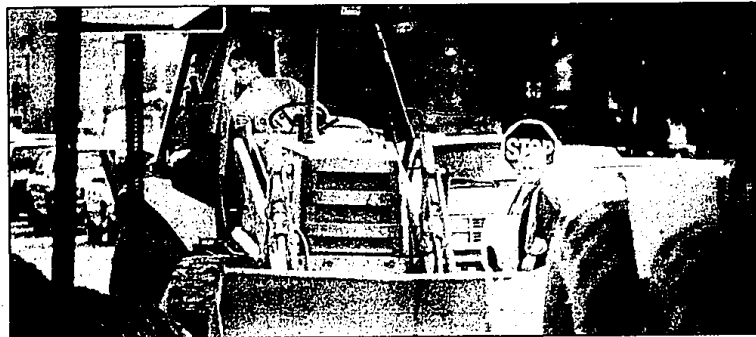


Posen Construction worker Jerry Hentkowski directs gravel into the trench where sewer pipes are installed.

photos by SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer



At Still of Utica leads a 15-foot pipe into the ground as part of Farmington's sewer construction project.



Traffic was reduced to one lane on northbound Farmington Road between Eight and Nine Mile roads during a recent phase of sewer construction. Controlling traffic is Alex Clark; Todd Winans operates a backhoe.



photos by SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Phil Webber (denim jacket), who was involved in a multi-vehicle accident on I-275 Tuesday, puts his arm around Kevin Champagne, a friend who came to help.

Multi-vehicle collision sends 4 to local hospitals

By Susan Buck
staff writer

A multi-vehicle accident on I-275 near Nine Mile Road in Farmington Hills tied up traffic early Tuesday afternoon.

Four people were transported to area hospitals with minor injuries, according to an early report by state police trooper Greg Stevens of the Northville post.

Plymouth resident Shari Staten, 23, driving a 1987 Mazda northbound on I-275, lost control when she tried to change lanes, preparing to enter the I-696 entrance ramp, Stevens said.

She jockeyed back and forth with another driver intending to do the same thing, Stevens said.

"She slid through the median from the far right lane across to the southbound I-275 lanes," Stevens said.

Staten struck a full-size Pontiac driven by Stanley Walmer, 56, of Ferndale.

"After she hit him, the Pontiac struck a 1988 Dodge mini-van driven by Judith Walters, 40, of Huntington Woods," Stevens said. "The van went off the road and flipped over on its side onto the shoulder."

THE PONTIAC then bounced back onto the road and was struck by

a tractor-trailer car-carrier transporting new Chevy Blazers, said Stevens, who did not have the driver's name.

The car carrier then hit the Pontiac a second time causing the Pontiac to flip on its side.

"The Pontiac was hit three times," Stevens said. "In the interim, a 1986 Dodge pickup truck was struck either by the Pontiac driven by Walmer or was grazed by the

hauler." Philip Webber, 63, a Northville resident, drove the pickup.

Walters, her husband and an unidentified passenger were taken to Providence Hospital, Southfield. Stanley Walmer and his passenger, Warren Pennington, 43, of Warren, went to Boisford Hospital in Farmington Hills, Stevens said.

"There were a lot of torn-up cars," he added.



Phil Webber, a plumber from Novi, picks up a pipe that fell off of his pickup truck on I-275.

Furniture designed by 19th century movers and Shakers.

Before there were corporate cultures and rat races, there were the Shakers. People who created exceptional furniture by caring more about getting things done right than getting them done yesterday.

At Workbench, we've reproduced both their philosophy and their furniture. Recreating the design of the originals right down to the fine cherry-wood that darkens as it ages.

See the entire collection of 28 Shaker inspired pieces at Workbench. And see what can happen when people care more about the art of woodworking than the art of the deal.

workbench.
Raising Your Standard Of Living.

<p>Full-size spindle bed \$579 Reg. \$650 Mattress additional</p>	<p>Hemlock wardrobe \$979 Reg. \$1095</p>	<p>Mirror \$189 Reg. \$210</p>	<p>6-drawer dresser \$799 Reg. \$895</p>
<p>Night stand \$229 Reg. \$260</p>			
<p>Blanket chest \$489 Reg. \$545</p>			

SOUTHFIELD
26026 W. 12 Mile Rd. 48034
West of Telegraph
(313) 352-1530

BIRMINGHAM
234 S. Hunter Blvd. 48009
South of Maple
(313) 540-3577

ANN ARBOR
410 N. Fourth Ave. 48104
a Kerrytown Shop
(313) 668-4688

OPEN SUNDAYS—CHECK YOUR LOCAL STORE FOR HOURS

A personalized Workbench credit card is the easiest way to shop with us. Ask for your application today.

ALSO 60 STORES THROUGHOUT THE U.S.

© Workbench, Inc. 1990