

Workers dig in for sewer project

Traffic detours expected

By Casey Hans
staff writer

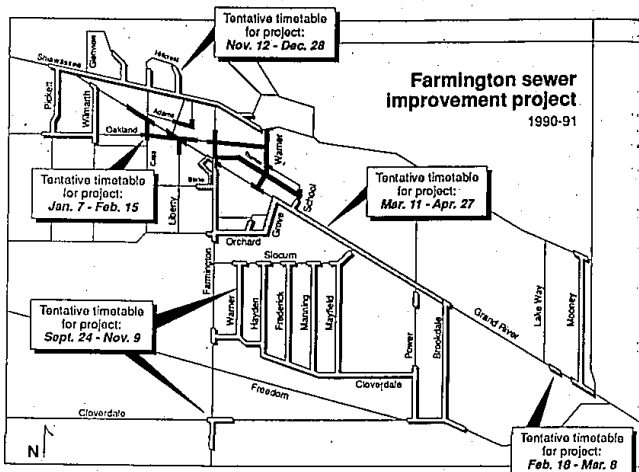
Detours.
That's what many Farmington-area residents will be experiencing for the next 18 months, as the city proceeds on its largest infrastructure project in history.

City officials said the \$12 million project was off to a smooth start, as backhoes tore into streets and ground was broken for a 3.2-million gallon retention basin.

The project began Sept. 24 in the Brookdale-Nine Mile-Cloverdale area, as contractors began work rebuilding, separating and repairing older sewers in the city.

In the same area, work began on the retention basin which will hold excess water until it can be sent to Detroit for treatment.

Farmington public services director Earl Billing said progress and project timelines would depend on weather conditions, including the temperature and snowfall this winter.



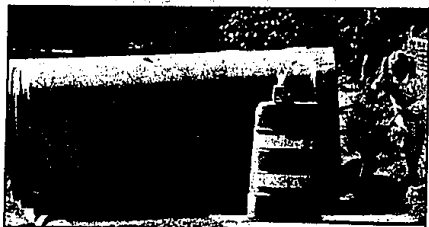
Residents in the first segment of the project, which includes an area on all or part of Brookdale, Power, Cloverdale, Mayfield, Manning, Frederick, Hayden and Warner

streets have already been notified about the project by letter. Billing said other areas would also receive notification from his department as the project progresses.

A low interest state loan is paying for the project; voters approved a bond issue last May, from which debt millage revenue will be collected to pay back the loan.



photos by SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer
Jim Stanley (top) and Tom Lehman of Dan's Excavating of Ulica create a manhole structure on Cloverdale as part of the city's \$13 million sewer project.



City officials say the city's sewer improvement project is likely to cause inconvenience for some residents. Here, 7-year-old Robin Beals maneuvers her bicycle around sewer piping on sidewalks in her neighborhood.

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