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MAYOR PRO TEM
Jason Floyd

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Diana F. Reid
Vicky C. Nelson
Keith Jenkins
Karl A. Riles

June 23, 2021

Dear Downtown Neighbor,

This week, Bradwell Park will begin a transformation. Our beloved park will undergo renovations to revitalize the space, further enhancing its status as both a landmark and destination in Hinesville.

The City of Hinesville and the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority (HDDA) outlined the renovation of Bradwell Park as a top priority in the 2019 Renaissance Strategic Vision and Plan. The purpose being to create a vibrant downtown area with a diverse array of dining, family-friendly activities and entertainment options. Through enhanced planning efforts involving the community and many of you, our local downtown business owners, a final design for the park was approved by the Hinesville City Council and HDDA Board in spring 2020.

The renovation project will include a performance stage, outdoor seating, public parking, 17-foot sidewalk area and more. It will also include public restroom facilities and an interactive splash pad. The park's new design will also feature rain gardens, helping aid stormwater runoff. All of these features will enhance the natural beauty of the park. Once complete, the newly renovated Bradwell Park will offer opportunities for community events, such as block parties, farmers markets, community festivals and the like. It will also help attract residents and visitors to the downtown area to enjoy dining, shopping and leisure activities.

While we are very excited about the prospect of renovating one of our community's most treasured spaces, our main goal is to limit disruptions to your business throughout the renovation process. Pedestrian access to businesses, like yours, will be maintained; however, Commerce St. will be closed to vehicular traffic from E. M. L. King, Jr. Dr. to Midway St. This road closure is necessary as it will help facilitate construction activities and will occur the total length of the renovation process, which is expected to last 180 days, weather permitting.

Below, you'll find a schedule outlining the first phase of renovation. This schedule is weather-dependent and may need to be adjusted, if unforeseen obstacles are encountered.

June 24-July 14: Demolition of Bradwell Park. During this time, the safety fencing surrounding renovation activities will be moved to the centerline of Commerce St. Sidewalk access to businesses on the eastside of Commerce St. will be maintained. This work is expected to last 2-3 weeks.

Continued on back.

"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"

123 East M.L. King Jr. Drive, Hinesville, GA 31313 (912) 368-8211
www.cityofhinesville.org

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July 14-28: Demolition of Commerce St. During this time, the safety fencing surrounding renovation activities will be moved to the sidewalk east of Commerce St., enclosing the entirety of Commerce St. within the fencing. During this time, crews will also relocate utility services under the roadway. This work is expected to last 1-2 weeks.

July 28-Aug. 11: Demolition and Replacement of Sidewalk. During this time, crews will replace the sidewalk east of Commerce St., directly adjacent to businesses between E. M. L. King, Jr. Dr. and Midway St. This work will entail digging up the current 4-foot sidewalk and pouring new concrete and laying brick pavers, creating a brand-new, visually appealing 17-foot sidewalk. During this 1-2 week period, businesses located in this area will need to use an alternate or back-door entrance as front door access will not be available. Crews will make every effort to complete this work quickly. As new sidewalk is cured, crews will open front door access to businesses. Our hope is to have all front door access to businesses in this area open by Aug. 11.

As mentioned, the above schedule outlines the first phase of renovation and is weather-dependent. We will reach out to you once more later when the schedule for the second phase of renovation is set. If you have specific questions regarding your business operation during the renovation project or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to the City's engineer, Paul Simonton with Simonton Engineering, at paul@simontoneng.com.

To help aid your business during this time, we'd like to bring your attention to our new Non-Profit Public Service Grant and Small Business Recovery Grant programs. These grant programs, funded by the American Rescue Plan, provide eligible non-profit organizations and small businesses with funding to help pay for operational costs, including payroll, rent, mortgage, utilities and more. The application period to apply for these programs opens at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 28, and closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13. When the application period opens, we encourage you to apply online at cityofhinesville.org. For inquiries, please call (912) 876-3164 or email communitydevelopment@cityofhinesville.org.

Thank you for your patience as we work to renovate Bradwell Park. We are sure that this much-needed project will ultimately result in more visitors to our downtown area and to your business.

Sincerely,

The City of Hinesville and the Hinesville Downtown Development Authority

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