

August 11, 2009

Dear River Oaks Neighbors:

The second phase of the City of Houston's Kirby Storm Sewer Project will commence on August 17, 2009. As many of you already know, the completion of this project will result in much improved drainage, water lines, street reconstruction, and sidewalks. We wish to advise you of the nature of the construction work that will be undertaken and the areas and sequence in which it will occur.

Pace Services, Inc. is the contractor for this project. Pace will begin its work at the intersection of Chevy Chase and Bellmeade. Pace will excavate a bore pit approximately 20 ft. wide by 30 ft. long by 15 ft. deep beneath the roadway at that intersection. Pace will then install a boring machine that will travel under the street towards San Felipe. At the same time, excavation of an open ditch will commence on Inwood just west of Kirby. That excavation will move west on Inwood to Bellmeade, where a smaller storm sewer line will continue down Inwood to terminate at River Oaks Boulevard and another line will continue on Bellmeade that will eventually terminate at Westheimer. Lateral lines will branch off of Bellmeade at the following intersections: Chevy Chase; Groveland; Huntingdon; and Avalon east of Bellmeade. A new storm sewer line will be installed under River Oaks Boulevard from Westheimer to Inwood. The holly trees in the River Oaks Esplanade and the large, majestic oaks on Bellmeade between Chevy Chase and San Felipe will receive proper protection during construction.

Because some of the sidewalks that are subject to replacement were originally constructed on private property by the River Oaks Corporation, an engineer will be in touch with those property owners to seek permission to replace the front sidewalk. Sidewalks constructed of other than concrete (pea gravel, brick, or slate) will be replaced with the same surface material, but only at the expense and by prior arrangement of the property owner.

With respect to all streets where construction will occur: One lane in each direction will be open during working hours. When traffic must be diverted into a single lane, flagmen will be utilized. During non-working hours or times when flagmen are not available, traffic will flow in both directions, unless otherwise authorized by the City Engineer. Local driveways to residential and commercial properties will be accessible at all times. Pace must obtain prior approval from the City for any weekend or after-hours work.

At some point during construction the street light standards on each side of a street will be removed until that portion of the project is complete. We anticipate that these lights will be upgraded by replacing the current 100 watt Mercury Vapor bulbs with 100 watt Metal Halide bulbs. The replacement bulbs will have much the same color as the old bulbs, but will be somewhat brighter. These replacement bulbs will eventually be used in all of the street lights in River Oaks. They will be compatible with the current landscape lighting that many neighbors have in their front yards and will preserve the historic character of the neighborhood.

We are advised by the City of Houston that the entire project is estimated to take 390 days from start to finish, but operations will proceed sequentially so that certain portions will be complete before work begins on others.

As with the first phase of the Kirby Storm Sewer Project, ROPO representatives worked closely with engineers and city administrators to ensure that this important project is completed with a minimum of inconvenience to our neighbors. ROPO representatives will be formally meeting with administrative and city officials on a monthly basis, and will be in contact on an informal basis with much greater frequency. If you have questions about aspects of this project over the next weeks and months, we hope that you will feel free to contact ROPO at 713-622-0001 or email us at [ropo@ropo.org](mailto:ropo@ropo.org), and look for updates on the ROPO website [www.ropo.org](http://www.ropo.org). Also feel free to contact the following project manager, city official or Pace Services about the project:

Leonard Washington, P.E., Contract Project Manager with BSCI, Inc. 713-590-7500  
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Jody Craze, City of Houston Senior Project Manager, 713-837-7188  
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Construction Firm: Pace Services, L.P.	Kevin Burns – 281-256-2201
Pace Services Construction Superintendent:	Otilio Garcia - 713-203-4185
Pace Services General Superintendent:	Allen Stanton – 713-775-6277

Sincerely,

Mark K. Glasser  
Chairman, City of Houston Committee

Gary C. Mangold  
General Manager