

Rhododendron Drive Re-alignment and Reconstruction Project



The long-awaited Rhododendron Drive roadway and utility improvement project from Wildwinds to 35th Street is out to bid. With the bid opening scheduled for December 5th, we anticipate that a recommendation of award will be presented to City Council at the December 11, 2023 Council meeting. We anticipate the selected contractor will start construction late January/early February 2024. The project, including engineering and property acquisition (slope easements and a small amount of additional right-of-way), is estimated to cost a total of \$7 million. Due to nature of the work involved, the project is anticipated to take two years to complete.

The Project

Our project is not merely a roadway reconstruction project. It is also a water and wastewater pipe line replacement project along with the installation of a separated multi-use path. The project will also shift or move the roadway to the east in the area of Marine Manor south to the end of the river overlook pullout area. This is necessary in order to improve vision clearance (sightlines) and provide an enhanced parking area along the river.



One of the key features of the project is dealing with the slopes on the east side of Rhododendron Drive south of New Hope Lane. The project utilizes the slope to the benefit of the project by incorporating the multi-use path and elevating it in this section of the project. This will allow pedestrians and bicyclists a view of the river and sand dunes from above motor vehicle level.

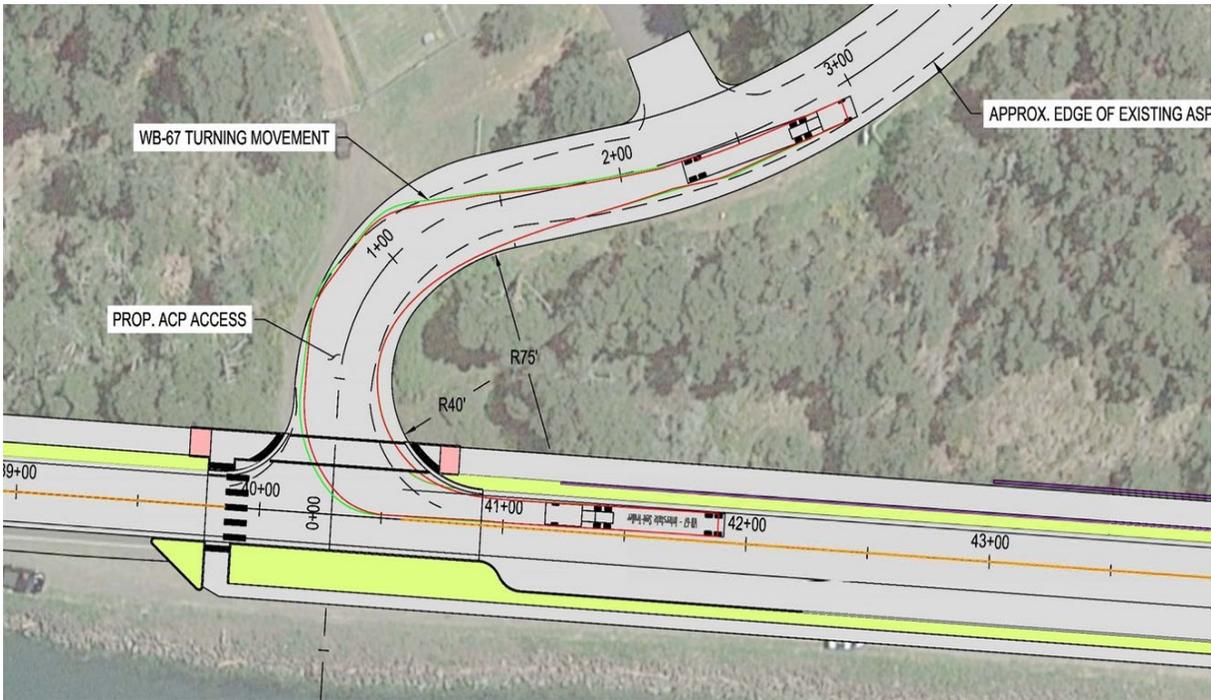


The project will also install a pedestrian activated signal to allow pedestrians and bicyclists an opportunity to cross Rhododendron Drive east to west at New Hope Lane so they too can have access to the river.

Due to the nature of the project with utility relocations (overhead and underground); retaining walls; vegetated stormwater facilities; realignment of the roadway; creation of a separated multi-use path; and realignment and reconstruction of New Hope Lane (in partnership with Lane County Waste Management Division) the project is expected to take two years to complete.

We will be providing more information and updates when they are available on the City capital project website located at this address:

<https://www.ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/rhododendron-drive-re-alignment-and-reconstruction-project>



**CITY OF FLORENCE
PUBLIC WORKS**