

From: **Karen Mendrala** <MendralK@ci.holyoke.ma.us>
Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2012 at 5:33 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: Holyoke Canalwalk/MPO Meeting
To: friendsofthecanalwalk@gmail.com
Cc: Alex Morse <MorseA@ci.holyoke.ma.us>

Thank you for your continued support of the Canalwalk. The Mayor has asked that I respond to your email to him regarding touching base on the Canalwalk project.

You will be provided access to you building throughout the entire construction period, however it will be a construction zone at times so if there are planned activities within the street there may be impacts, especially visually. In order for us to construct the Canalwalk and repave Race Street there will be a period of construction.

Our schedule, at this time, will not impact your spring activities. It is anticipated that construction will begin over the mid-summer period and extend through the fall. Once that time gets closer you should check in again with us, but assume that Race Street will be in construction through the fall at the least.

The HG&E will not be completing utility work prior to the Canalwalk project being given the notice to proceed from MassDOT. No work can be done in relation to this project prior to that point and be included in the costs of the project.

The 75% plans have been submitted to MassDOT and comments have begun to role in. As you know, we have no control over the time periods of review. We are just one project of the hundreds across the state that the MassDOT must review. The project is a priority for MassDOT and they have committed to expediting the project, which is a great thing, but there is still no definitive time period. Based on estimates of average review times and comments from MassDOT, we are anticipating that all comments will be received by mid-December and final 100% plans will be submitted by the end of January. These plans will go through a final round of reviews. It is anticipated that the project will go out to bid in May 2013.

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