

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: STREET CLOSURE FOR WATER VALVE REPLACEMENT ALONG
SOUTH 16TH STREET**

BACKGROUND:

A 12-inch water valve located near the intersection of South 16th Street and South Riverside Drive near the Vet Med College was recently discovered leaking significant amounts of water when it was closed. This valve leak was discovered during routine water valve turning, which is a proactive maintenance measure that allows Public Works crews to identify locations where problems controlling the flow of water within the water mains exist. This leak is significant enough that the valve needs to be replaced in order to maintain positive control of the distribution system during water main breaks, emergencies, or scheduled shutdowns. A map of the area is shown in Attachment A.

The Municipal Code requires that City Council approve temporary closures of those streets that are classified as arterials or are active CyRide routes, which is the case with South 16th Street (Gray Route #4).

The water main valve is located in the shoulder of South 16th Street. However, the soils in the area are predominately sand and have high ground water tables. The valve is approximately 12 feet deep and the presence of other utilities in the area also makes it a difficult location to perform the work. Because of this, **closure of South 16th Street is necessary for approximately 2 calendar days to safely accommodate the water valve replacement.** This closure is needed to protect the traveling public and to allow room for the work to proceed.

Work is anticipated to begin on Monday, August 8, 2016, though that date may be adjusted due to factors beyond staff's control. Staff thus seeks Council approval to close the street on or around that date for these repairs. The timing of the work will take advantage of the Iowa State University summer break; and should the work be completed in less than two days, the street will be reopened to traffic.

Access to the Iowa State Veterinary Medicine College and area residences and businesses will be maintained at all times from each end of South 16th Street. Staff will directly notify the College of Veterinary Medicine and residents along South 16th Street. The public will be notified using message boards, a press release, social media, and the City website.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Delegate to staff the ability to administratively approve the closure of South 16th Street, as noted on the attached map, to facilitate the replacement of the 12 inch water valve.

2. Direct staff to identify alternate dates to conduct the replacement of the 12 inch water valve.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Recent experience with similar coordination efforts has resulted in the need for flexibility on the part of staff to be able to administratively identify the dates of the closure, as needed. By authorizing the closure of South 16th Street, City Council will be facilitating the best timing to repair this valve prior to Iowa State's fall semester. This repair will help maintain the functionality of the City's water distribution system.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.



South 16th Street Water Valve Replacement



© City of Ames, Iowa makes no warranties, expressed or implied, including without limitation, any warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall the City of Ames be liable for lost profits or any consequential or incidental damages caused by the use of this map.

Date: 7/19/2016

1 inch = 333 feet