

Switzer Road, 159th Street to 167th Street
Frequently Asked Questions
November 11, 2020

Q: Why is Switzer Road between 159th and 167th being reconstructed?

A: The roadway is currently identified on the Overland Park Official Street Map as a Unimproved/Proposed Thoroughfare. The roadway is being reconstructed to improve the safety of both motorists and pedestrians while setting the roadway up for future expansion to the ultimate configuration.

Q: When will construction begin and how long will it last?

A: Utilities are scheduled to begin relocations in mid to late 2021 and the roadway construction is scheduled to begin in 2022 and be completed in late 2022 or early 2023.

Q: Why are the lanes being constructed on the east side of the existing roadway?

A: The existing conditions (topography, waterways, development, utilities, right of way, etc.) dictate that the most efficient configuration is to construct the future northbound lanes first.

Q: When will the other two lanes be constructed?

A: When vehicular volumes are higher and driver delay is longer, the remaining two lanes will be constructed to complete the ultimate configuration.

Q: Will the City acquire right of way on the west side of Switzer? If so, why?

A: Yes, the City plans to acquire right of way on the west side of Switzer Road. The right of way will be used for grading, drainage, a sidewalk and to establish the right of way corridor for the future roadway expansion.

Q: Why is the City not constructing a 4-lane roadway?

A: The corridor is identified as an interim 2-lane roadway in the South Overland Park Transportation Plan, completed in 2015. Additionally, a traffic analysis completed in early 2020 by the design consultant confirms the 2015 study recommendation for an interim 2-lane roadway. When vehicular volumes are higher, the other two lanes will be constructed to complete the ultimate configuration.

Q: What impact does the project have on my property?

A: The project will have different impacts on each individual property, depending on their location and proximity to the project.

Q: When will I know if the City needs to acquire land from me?

A: The City anticipates that right of way impacts will be identified by early 2021.

Q: Who do I need to contact to discuss what impact the project has on my property?

A: Please contact City Staff to discuss the property impacts.

Q: Will there be a center median?

A: No, not as part of this project. A center median will be constructed once the remaining two lanes are constructed in the future.

Q: Will Switzer Road have bicycle lanes?

A: There will be a 6' urban shoulder adjacent to the northbound lane and a 6' shoulder adjacent to the southbound lane. Both of these will allow for bicycle usage.

Q: Will the City be reconstructing my driveway or changing access to Switzer Road?

A: The project will affect each property differently. Each driveway connecting to Switzer within the project limits will be at least partially reconstructed to account for the new Switzer Road alignment and elevation.

Q: Will it be safe for me to cross Switzer Road (on a bike or walking) once it is completed?

A: There will be sidewalks on both sides of Switzer that connect with marked crosswalks at 159th Street and 167th Street to allow for safe crossings.

Q: Will I be required to mow and maintain grass in public right of way?

A: Yes, residents are required by City ordinance to maintain grassy areas in public right of way adjacent to their property.