



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blasting to begin Monday on Haines Road

St. Louis County engineers are alerting the public that rock blasting operations will begin Monday, March 11, on the \$12 million Haines Road reconstruction project in West Duluth. Approximately 65,000 cubic yards of rock, weighing an estimated 150,000 tons, needs to be removed. The rock will be crushed and re-used onsite as roadway material and to line slopes.

Three to four blasts per day could occur over the next few months. Crews will employ all required safety measures and notification requirements before, during and after each blasting sequence. Blasting will only occur between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Falcon Drilling and Blasting Company will be doing the blasting.

Haines Road, officially known as CSAH 91, sustained heavy damage from the heavy rains and resulting run-off during last June's storm, forcing the closure of a 2.25 mile segment between 40th Avenue West to approximately 1,000 feet south of Mary Lane.

The rebuilding of Haines Road is the largest stand-alone project ever for St. Louis County Public Works. When the road re-opens, which is expected to happen in November, it will feature three lanes (two lanes for traffic going uphill, one lane coming down) and include a sidewalk. A right turn lane will be added at Morris Thomas Road. The curve at "horseshoe bend" will be designed for 25 mile-per-hour speeds (previously was for 20 mph) and will feature Dynamic Chevron signs that will flash in sequence as a warning if oncoming motorists are approaching too quickly. A large underpass will be added where the Superior Hiking Trail crosses Haines Road, plus there will be a parking area with space for five vehicles.

Other new features include curb and gutter, plus infiltration basins on both sides of the road to control storm water drainage for future flood mitigation. Also, 2,400 feet of retaining walls will be added to reduce impacts in sensitive areas.

To sign up for e-mail alerts about this or any St. Louis County Public Works project, visit stlouiscountymn.gov/construction.

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