



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction temporarily affecting Arlington Avenue and Central Entrance

Construction to improve the intersection of Central Entrance and Arlington Avenue will result in temporary traffic restrictions on both roads. Beginning today, June 26, the left-turn lanes on Central Entrance are closed. The more significant traffic impact starts tomorrow, June 27, with the closure of Arlington Avenue at the intersection with Central Entrance. A detour for Arlington Avenue will be provided using Basswood Avenue, however, traffic on Arlington Avenue is encouraged to use an alternative route. Through traffic on Central Entrance will be maintained during the entire closure period. Arlington Avenue and the left-turn lanes on Central Entrance are expected to reopen to traffic by this weekend.

The project follows a traffic engineering evaluation of this intersection that noted left-turning vehicles on Arlington Avenue were experiencing delays lasting multiple cycles of the traffic signal. In addition to changes in traffic signal operation, the existing traffic signal system will be refurbished with new wiring, signal heads, new paint and other equipment to extend the life of the traffic signal.

The current work is the second stage of the project for St. Louis County Public Works, and is done in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Last year, St. Louis County installed a right-turn lane for the north leg of this intersection (serving southbound direction of traffic on Arlington Avenue). This work was completed in anticipation of revising the traffic signal this summer to provide a left-turn arrow (protected/permissive operation) for both left-turn lanes on Arlington Avenue.

In working with the contractor, St. Louis County required that as much work as possible be completed while the traffic signal was operational, to minimize impact to traffic. However, the project is now at a point where it is necessary to disrupt the operation of the traffic signal.

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