



News Release
City Hall
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MICROTUNNELING UNDER LUKE WOOD PARK BEGINS

Sarasota, FL: The Lift Station 87 contractor began installing the second and final microtunnel segment this week. This work connects the Lift Station 87 site with the previously installed 36-inch wastewater main under Hudson Bayou and is critical to the success of the Lift Station 87 project.

Crews launched the microtunnel boring machine from a 30-foot deep shaft at the Lift Station 87 site in Luke Wood Park. The contractor uses precise instrumentation to guide the boring machine westward to a tunnel shaft adjacent to the intersection of Mound Street and South Osprey Avenue. The two pipelines will meet at this shaft where a large manhole will be installed. The first microtunnel pipeline was successfully completed on March 14, 2017.

The microtunnel operation under Luke Wood Park is anticipated to last three to four weeks. The contractor will work 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Microtunneling is a specialized trenchless construction technique for installing pipelines under waterways, wetlands and roadways. The heads on the end of the boring machine cut through the earth, which is removed as the tunnel is created. The microtunnel boring machine advances 20-40 feet per day, depending on underground conditions. As the tunnel is created, a 60-inch diameter protective steel casing is put in place. The new wastewater main will be installed inside the tunnel, which is approximately 30 feet below the park surface.

Work on Lift Station 87 is scheduled to begin in July. Lift Station 87 will replace Lift Station 7, located at 935 Pomelo Avenue. Once the entire project is completed, wastewater flow will be redirected from Lift Station 7 to Lift Station 87.

For more information about the Lift Station 87 project, go to www.liftstation87.com or call our project information line at 941-356-8071. Interested parties can also subscribe to email updates at www.egovlink.com/sarasota/subscriptions/subscribe.asp. Also, follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram -- search "City of Sarasota".

Media requests should be directed to Michelle Klase Robinson, Dialogue Public Relations: 727-580-9013 or MRobinson@Dialogue-PR.com

About the City of Sarasota: Distinguished by Google as a Digital Capital in the U.S., the City of Sarasota is a diverse community located on Florida's Suncoast with 53,000 year round residents, several internationally recognized cultural arts venues, stunning sunsets along Lido Beach, a 45-hole municipal golf course at the historic Bobby Jones Golf Club, and Major League spring training baseball with the Baltimore Orioles. Learn more about us at www.SarasotaGov.com

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