



**News Release**  
City Hall  
1565 First Street  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
[www.SarasotaGov.com](http://www.SarasotaGov.com)

---

**For Immediate Release:** March 17, 2017

**Contact:** Michelle Klase Robinson, Community Outreach: 727-580-9013  
[mrobinson@dialogue-pr.com](mailto:mrobinson@dialogue-pr.com)

## **FIRST LIFT STATION 87 MICROTUNNEL COMPLETED**

Sarasota, FL: The first Lift Station 87 microtunnel, which crossed under Hudson Bayou and Osprey Avenue, has been successfully completed. Tuesday night, the microtunnel boring machine arrived at the receiving shaft on the corner of Osprey and Mound.

“Data collection, accurate engineering and a sound construction plan all contributed to the success of this microtunnel,” said Sarasota Utility Director Mitt Tidwell. “With this significant hurdle passed, we will continue working to keep our aggressive schedule and retire Lift Station 7 by the end of 2020.”

Microtunneling is a specialized trenchless construction technique for installing pipelines under waterways, wetlands and roadways.

For the first microtunnel segment, crews are removing the microtunnel boring machine from the receiving shaft and will then place the 36-inch wastewater main inside the steel casing installed by the microtunnel machine. Once the wastewater main is installed, crews will pressure test the pipe, place manholes and restore the area. That work should be completed this summer, and then the Osprey Bridge will re-open.

The second microtunnel segment is scheduled to begin in April. It will start at the launching shaft at the Lift Station 87 site and be guided westward under Luke Wood Park to the receiving shaft at Osprey and Mound.

In order to meet project deadlines, the contractor will be working from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

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](http://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](http://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](mailto:MRobinson@Dialogue-PR.com)

-30-

**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](http://www.SarasotaGov.com)

**Connect with Us:**



Facebook: [City of Sarasota](#)

Twitter: [City of Sarasota](#)

YouTube: [City of Sarasota](#)

Instagram: [cityofsarasota](#)