

Construction set to start on Falls City Main Street Project

Construction on the first phase of Falls City's long anticipated downtown revitalization project is set to start early next month. Main Street Committee members outlined the construction timeline for the construction Wednesday during a meeting with downtown business owners.

The first phase of the project includes construction on the south side of 17th Street between Harlan and Stone, and the west side of Stone Street from 18th to 17th.

Design Committee Chairperson Casey Whalen provided an update on when the construction will begin. (play audio :23)

Whalen estimates construction on the west side of Stone Street should start sometime in mid-August to early September. That, she said, depends on how quickly construction wraps up on 17th Street and how the contractor, AHR Construction, works around the Cobblestone Festival.

The project includes reconfiguring the sidewalks to lower curb heights and provide easier access to downtown businesses. Intersections will also be redone with bump-outs and four-way stop signs replacing the current, antiquated, traffic signals.

Whalen said the contractor has agreed to provide businesses access to their front doors during the construction process. The exception to that will be when the concrete is being poured and when the concrete is curing – approximately a day or day-and-a-half.

Whalen said work on phase one will conclude by the end of October. Committee members say they are working on securing funding for the next phase of the downtown revitalization project.

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