



For Immediate Release
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Safe Routes to School Project Moves Forward

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg is moving one step closer to having bicycle and pedestrian routes surrounding one city school.

In the summer of 2010, in partnership with Waterman Elementary School, the City and members of the community were awarded a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). This grant was to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety in neighborhoods around the school.

Since that time, the City has been working on engineering designs and communicating with residents and property owners about the upcoming project.

The project will include:

- Sidewalks on the west side of Chicago Avenue, between Second Street and Rockingham Drive
- Sidewalks on the east side of Stuart Street, between Chicago Avenue and Third Street
- Sidewalks on the south side of Third Street, between Stuart and Collicello streets
- Sidewalks on the west side of Virginia Avenue, from approximately Second to Fifth streets
- Sidewalks on the east side of Virginia Avenue, from approximately Second to Fourth streets
- Pedestrian signal at the intersection of Third Street and Virginia Avenue
- Bike Lanes on Chicago Avenue, between Gay Street and Rockingham Drive.

The next phase of this project is already underway. Crews with Harrisonburg Public Utilities are currently working in the area to relocate water meters.

In March 2013, the more visible phase of this project will begin when the construction of sidewalks will take place.

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It is anticipated that this project will be completed toward the end of November 2013.

In addition to making these improvements, the City of Harrisonburg's goal is to maintain a great relationship with the neighbors by keeping the community informed. A webpage has been developed just for this project. The community is encouraged to check up on the status of this project by visiting www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/Waterman-safe-routes. A detailed map with these improvements is also available on this site.

The Harrisonburg Public Works Department maintains more than 300 lane miles, 42.37 miles of public sidewalk, 250 miles of curb and gutter, and hundreds of acres of city right-of-way. The Department strives to ensure a safe, clean, and clear passageway for all vehicular and pedestrian traffic. More information about street and sidewalk maintenance is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/public-works.

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