FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 12, 2015

City of Morgantown's University Avenue and Third Street Intersection Project to Begin 24 Hour Construction

MORGANTOWN - Due to weather delays and utility relocations, University Avenue will be closed beyond the original contract date, that was to be August 14.

To expedite the remaining construction, 24-hour construction will start at the University Avenue and Third Street intersection project in the form of two 12-hour shifts next week.

The change has been approved by the City Manager, who can grant a waiver from the City’s noise ordinance to allow construction after the regular hours outlined in the ordinance.

The City hopes the change will allow for earlier completion of the project. The new completion date is now mid-September.

Residents and commuters in that area, as well as students returning to town for move-in day, should expect delays as construction continues. Students are encouraged to walk or take the PRT or bus when possible to avoid delays in their commute.

University Avenue remains completely closed to traffic starting at Overhill Street to just before Fourth Street. Commuters should continue to follow the detour route on Grant Avenue over to Beechurst and Eighth Street.

Students and Sunnyside residents are reminded that parking is restricted on Eighth Street because of the detour route. Once construction is complete, it will open back up as a permit parking only area.

The intersection at Third/Beverly/University was a four-way intersection with steep grades and difficult geometry before construction began. With the construction of the parking garage in that area, a fifth leg of the intersection will be added, complicating the previous layout even more.

The City is putting a traffic signal at that intersection to help control traffic flow, and the road will be lowered to help ease the transition from Third Street to University Avenue and vice versa.
There will also be a left turn lane added to the existing north and southbound lanes on University Avenue.

The City hopes the finished project will encourage commuters to take Third Street as a through-route between Beechurst and University Avenue, which will open up the area more and help control traffic in that corridor more efficiently.

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