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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2017

After an extended weather delay, construction of Phase I of the Downtown Street Improvements project has begun. The previous information release is included for reference and has been updated for current conditions

CBJ to begin downtown improvement work on South Franklin Street *Phase 1 includes new road, sidewalks and lighting*

The City and Borough of Juneau is working with Arete Construction to implement a new roadway, new sidewalks, new lighting and drainage improvements to parts of South Franklin Street. After an extended weather delay, work resumed March 20 and will last until June. This is Phase 1 of Downtown Street Improvements.

Downtown Street Improvements: Phase 1, South Franklin Street

What is Phase 1?

Phase 1 work encompasses a portion of South Franklin Street, from the Manila Square intersection to just shy of the Front Street intersection.

What is the timeline and plan for Phase 1?

Construction on South Franklin Street will occur one block at a time – first from Manila Square to Ferry Way, then from Ferry way to Front Street.

The public can expect most of the work to occur on the first block from now until April 15, and on the second block from April 15 to May 15. Full completion of Phase 1 is scheduled for June 1.

Arete Construction will be working Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., with occasional work on Sundays. A very small amount of work will be done during evening hours. ***Due to weather delays, the contractor is planning to work longer hours, possibly until 9 PM some evenings.***

What about pedestrian access and parking during construction?

Demolition will be limited to one side of the street at a time within each block, so at least one sidewalk will be available for pedestrian access. Arete Construction will provide pedestrian walkways to businesses and buildings that are in the active construction zone. Pedestrian walkways will be clearly delineated through traffic cones, orange fencing and/or signs. Pedestrians should always use more caution within the construction zone.

There will be no on-street parking on the block that's being worked on. A loading zone will be available at all times during construction.

How will traffic and Capital Transit be affected?

South Franklin Street will be closed to through traffic from Manila Square to Ferry Way while this block is being worked on from now until mid-April.

While the second block of South Franklin Street from Ferry way to Front Street is being worked on mid-April to mid-May, traffic flow on both Ferry Way and Front Street will be reversed. Traffic control signs will be in place and the public will be notified of alternative traffic patterns one week in advance.

Capital Transit won't be operating on South Franklin Street during construction. Instead, riders will be dropped off at the Downtown Transit Center.

How many phases are there?

Downtown street improvements will occur in three phases. Phase 2 will encompass Front Street and a portion of North Franklin Street. Phase 3 will encompass South Seward Street, Municipal Way, Shattuck Way and Ferry Way.

How much is this costing and where is the funding coming from?

Construction cost for Phase 1 of the project is \$1.2 million. Funding for this project comes from a combination of marine passenger vessel fees, sales tax revenue and water utility funds.

Where can I get more information and project updates?

CBJ's project manager Lori Sowa will be providing weekly updates every Tuesday, 9 a.m., at Heritage Coffee Cafe on Front Street starting Feb. 28. She can be reached at 586-0875 and lori.sowa@juneau.org.

Look for updates on the project website <http://www.juneau.org/engineering/franklinandfrontstreet/> and follow City & Borough of Juneau on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/CBJAK/>) and Twitter (@cbjuneau) <https://twitter.com/cbjuneau>.

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