



## CITY OF POQUOSON

ENGINEERING

500 CITY HALL AVENUE, POQUOSON, VIRGINIA 23662-1996  
(757) 868-3040 TELEPHONE (757) 868-3105 FAX

October 5, 2016

TO: Randy Wheeler, City Manager  
FROM: Ellen Roberts, City Engineer; Mark Boesen, City Inspector  
RE: Little Florida Road Ditch Piping Project Traffic Control

Construction on the Little Florida Ditch Piping Project is scheduled to begin Monday, October 17, 2016. The work will impact traffic as the contractor relocated utilities, digs trenches and installs piping in a narrow right-of-way.

The construction plans included traffic control measures for both a one lane closure using flaggers and a detour. At minimum, the northerly lane of Little Florida must be closed so that the contractor has room to use heavy equipment and complete the work. A detour would occasionally be required for through traffic so that the contractor could relocate some utilities.

The contract documents require that traffic control can only be used between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Both lanes must be open to through traffic before and after those work hours. In addition, the contractor must maintain access for emergency vehicles and residents of the area at all times. Driveway access for residents living along the construction site must be restored nightly, except for the day a new asphalt driveway apron is poured and is curing. Residents have been informed of this.

The contractor recently provided the City a detour plan and requested that a detour be used during a bulk of the construction. This means that through traffic would consistently be detoured around the site on weekdays between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for about 4 weeks. The detour plan is attached and shows where signs and barricades would be located. Barricades would be removed daily before 4 p.m. and set back up after 9 a.m. Residents living in the detour area and emergency vehicles would be able to enter the work site by driving around the barricades, which would be placed to allow this ingress/egress. Some flagging operations would occur before or after this 4 week period as the contractor begins and completes the project.

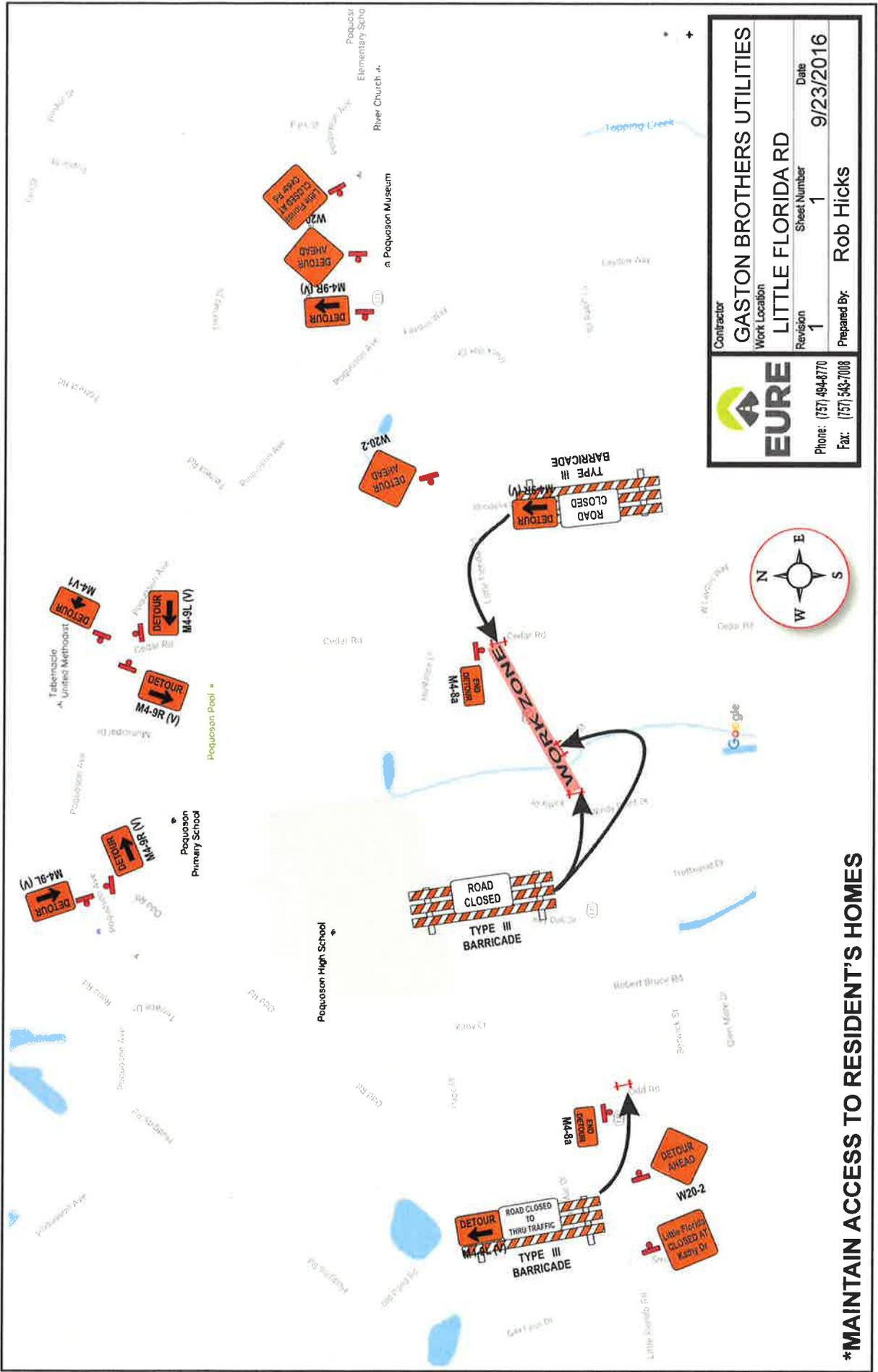
Little Florida is a major route within the City. A detour would increase traffic on Cedar and Odd Roads and Poquoson Avenue and motorists using Little Florida Road during work hours. It would impact residents in 14 Little Florida Road homes located in the construction zone and residents living on Far Street who would like to directly access Little Florida instead of turning onto Cedar

Road and then Little Florida. The barricades would be set up just east of Kathy Drive and just west of Cedar Road, creating approximately 1,000 linear feet (0.2 miles) of restricted access road.

The contractor cites the following reasons for using a daily detour rather than flagging operations for the bulk of the construction period:

- Contractor Safety: The detour will reduce the number of vehicles in or near the work zone, reducing the likelihood of a worker/motorist accident.
- Motorist Safety: The detour will also increase safety for motorists by keeping through traffic away from the work zone.
- Consistency: By providing the same type of traffic control every day, instead of using flagging operations on most days combined with an occasional detour day, motorists will know what to expect and be prepared on what to do when they approach the work zone.
- Construction Time: The detour will provide the contractor more maneuvering room and allow the use of larger equipment. The contractor estimates this would reduce construction time by several weeks.

City staff agrees that a consistent detour may provide safer conditions for workers and motorists and should reduce construction time. However, it will be more inconvenient for residents. We ask for direction.



<b>EURE</b>		Contractor <b>GASTON BROTHERS UTILITIES</b>
Phone: (757) 494-8770	Revision 1	Work Location <b>LITTLE FLORIDA RD</b>
Fax: (757) 546-7000	Sheet Number 1	Date 9/23/2016
		Prepared By: <b>Rob Hicks</b>

**\*MAINTAIN ACCESS TO RESIDENT'S HOMES**