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(Neb.)-Official Compares Spearfish Street Project With Chadron



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 05/16/2013 10:11 AM

(Chadron)-Many communities choose summer to do major projects involving the streets, because the weather is more cooperative for things such as repaving or replacing sewer lines. KCSR's/KBPY's Chris Fankhauser spoke with a city official in a community in South Dakota that some of our listeners may remember, and gives Chadron residents a view of what they might expect with the upcoming storm water and sewer project scheduled for the downtown area.

As the City of Chadron prepares to undergo an extensive storm water and sewer project which will affect the downtown area of the City, KCSR/KBPY is revisiting a community that several years ago underwent an extreme makeover of its own, which closed their entire main street for several months during the summer. Cheryl Johnson is the Public Works Director for the City of Spearfish, SD. She says that business owners in Spearfish had the same concerns that many Chadron businesses may have.

Johnson said the main concern for businesses during this project was how it would affect their customers. They were able to meet with the engineers and voice their concerns during the planning process.

The decision was made to close down all of the blocks involved in the project, because it would mean the completion would come more quickly. However, Johnson said the contractors and engineers made sure businesses would still be accessible.

Although the streets were closed down for the duration of the project, Johnson said the engineer made sure, as well as the contractor, that there was walking access to all businesses along the route.

Listen to KCSR Live @ 4 Thursday and Friday afternoons for two parts of an interview with Johnson, where she explains in more detail the issues faced during the Spearfish Main Street renovation, and the solutions the City presented, as well as where the City is now since the completion of the project nearly two years ago.

(Questions? Comments? Email news@chadrad.com)

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