Pinellas County is continuing to invest in infrastructure to meet the community’s needs now and in the future. The Pinellas County Redundant Force Main project will replace an existing 20-inch wastewater force main that serves the Seminole/Pinellas Park area. This pipeline is more than 50 years old and has failed twice in the past five years. Replacing this aging force main will protect public health, improve wastewater service reliability, improve operational flexibility and protect the environment.

Selecting a Route
Engineers analyzed four potential pipeline routes from Pump Station 16, located near Park and Seminole boulevards, to the county’s South Cross Bayou Water Reclamation Facility on 54th Avenue North. Each route was evaluated against weighted selection criteria that included: safety, traffic impacts, the environment, permitting, location of other utilities, constructability, cost, community input and more. The selected route (shown below) is 3.4 miles long and will be built in Park Boulevard, 84th Lane North, Park Street and 62nd Avenue North. The route includes connections with the existing, parallel 36-inch force main, so all the flows can be routed to either pipeline should one be taken out of service in the future for repairs or maintenance activity.

Among the top-ranked routes, the selected route has the least impact to Park Boulevard, has fewer special crossings, takes advantage of wide rights-of-way along the southern portions of the route, and is the least costly.
Construction & Traffic

As the design of the selected force main route is completed, engineers will remain mindful of safety, traffic and accessibility concerns. Most of the force main will be installed by open cut trench, which moves at a rate of about 80 feet per day, plus three days per intersection. Horizontal direction drilling will be used to install the force main under selected intersections and waterways. Directional drilling is a trenchless construction technique that allows pipelines to be installed under roads and waterways to minimize disruption to traffic and the environment. A directional drill under a typical waterway or major intersection usually takes about four to five weeks to complete.

A maintenance-of-traffic plan will be developed before construction begins to keep motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians safely moving through the area. We will coordinate closely with Pinellas County School Board, Pinellas County Transit Authority, first responders and other emergency services before construction begins to ensure these services continue without interruption. Signage and emails will be used to give residents advance notice of any detours or lane closures.

Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design and Permitting</td>
<td>Spring 2016 – Spring 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor Selection</td>
<td>Summer 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>End of 2017 – mid-2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost

Engineering services for the project will cost approximately $1.7 million. Engineer’s estimate for construction of the selected route is approximately $11.6 million. The project is being funded through the county’s sewer enterprise fund, so no property tax dollars are being used.

Working with the Community

Pinellas County is committed to keeping residents and businesses informed and involved as the project progresses. There are various ways citizens can stay informed on the project. Information will be distributed on the county’s social media feeds, including Twitter (@PinellasCoNews) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/PinellasCountyNews/). Citizens may also subscribe to receive notifications from the county at www.pinellascounty.org. Select “Subscribe to E-News” for email notices or “Sign up – Community Notification Services,” to receive notices via telephone, text message or TDD/TTY devices. Information is also posted online at www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.