

## City of Fremont Update

Date: May 14, 2021

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

### New Library Rendering

The image on the right is the new rendering of what the Library would look like after the expansion project is complete. The rendering, by the architectural firm SPT, from Wichita, Kansas, is a look at the east entrance.

The expansion project includes more space for materials, computers, and community meeting rooms. Fundraising for the expansion project is underway. Voters in 2018 approved a \$2 million bond issue to augment \$7 million the committee is planning to fundraise from private donors and foundations. The Friends of the Library raised \$23,126 from the community during the Big Give held last week. Here is a link to a video of the planned expansion project:

<https://www.facebook.com/KeeneMemLib/videos/796905504277495/>



### Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN)

The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) is a point-to-point Internet Protocol (IP) microwave network that uses towers across the state to connect Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and 911 centers. The network can transport large amounts of data, radio, voice, and video quickly and efficiently in a secure and reliable fashion. NRIN is funded by grant dollars and owned and operated by local governments. It is governed by individuals from all aspects of public safety.

In Fremont, the Fire and Police Departments use radios tied to the NRIN network. Dodge County, through the installation of additional towers, tied the Sheriff's Department to the network too.

Here is a link to a great video that describes what NRIN does and how it improves public safety and lowers costs:

<https://nrinpublic.info/#>



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**There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!**

## Stormwater Pipe Repaired near Big Red

A sink hole, shown in the top picture on the right, is a telltale sign of something wrong below. In this case, it was a leaking joint in the stormwater pipe that goes under the frontage road beside 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between N Clarmar Road and Laverna Street (near Big Red Keno). The pipe conveys Rawhide Creek stormwater under 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.

After finding the sink hole, the Street Department removed a portion of the street



and dug up the pipe to uncover the problem—a separated joint in the pipe. When underground sanitary sewer and stormwater pipes leak, because of a separation in the pipe, a crack, or a break in the pipe, water washes dirt from around the pipe into the pipe. When enough dirt gets washed into the pipe, a sink hole is formed.

The bottom picture shows the leaking joint in the stormwater pipe (red arrow points to joint) as well as the form the crew from the Street Department built to encase the joint with cement. (Please notice the chute from the cement truck on the right side of the picture.) Encasing the joint with concrete, completely encloses the joint, so water can no longer wash dirt into the pipe.

So...the question remains, what caused the pipe joint to separate? According to Mark Vyhlidal, City Street Superintendent, many things including settling, improper installation, pipe failures, or collapses can cause pipe joints to fail. The Street Department had the street closed for about a week while the repairs were done.

## New Wave of Gas Meters Coming Soon

Ultrasonic, or what some call Smart Gas Technology, meters will become commonplace soon. Unlike an old natural gas meter that uses a mechanical wheel to measure gas, an ultrasonic meter measures the speed at which sound travels in the gas in the pipe. Not only are these meters more accurate over a longer period of time, but they capture consumption data too. In addition, the meter can be remotely shut off and turned on, as well disrupt gas flow automatically in emergency situations.



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