

Construction of seawall set to begin

Area road & park closures expected during project

COEUR D'ALENE (Sept. 25, 2013) — City crews will reassemble the seawall between Park Drive and Hubbard Avenue through City Park to Northwest Boulevard on Sept. 30 as part of the recertification of the Dike Road levee.

Several areas will be closed along the southern side of Rosenberry Drive between Park and Hubbard during construction. The Independence Point parking lot will be closed from Sept. 30 - Oct. 3. Lakeshore Drive between Hubbard and Park will see closures on and off throughout the day Sept. 30. And parts of City Park and the beach will be closed during construction.

Workers will install 239 uprights (H beams) and approximately 1,700 planks. The work is expected to take 10 to 12 hours to complete, but the project could wrap up sooner, said City Street Superintendent Tim Martin, whose crews will assemble the wall with assistance from Water and Parks department personnel.

“I anticipate it will go faster than that,” Martin said. “Many of us have been preparing for this since April. We’re ready.”

The flood works consists of sheet pile, concrete seawall and an earthen levee system, which was constructed in the 1940s by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to prevent water from boiling up beneath the sand, rising over construction wall and flooding the land. It was constructed well above the ordinary high water mark and protects North Idaho College, the Fort Grounds neighborhood, City Park, the museum and the city’s wastewater treatment plant.

The city of Coeur d’ Alene, as the sponsor of the flood works system, is seeking certification from FEMA through a third-party engineering firm. (Ruen-Yeager Associates, Inc.).

Recertification has involved a series of repairs and maintenance to the 1.5-mile stretch between Harbor Center and Independence Point. ▢