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McKay Creek Elementary

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Washington Elementary

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October 10, 2017

Dear Parents and Staff:

RE: SE Byers Avenue Natural Gas Line Replacement Project

As many of you may be aware, Cascade Natural Gas is replacing lines between SE 5th Street and SE 15th Street. District representatives including Washington Elementary School Principal Aimee VanNice have met with representatives from the City of Pendleton, Cascade Natural Gas, and the General Contractor, Snyder Gas, to review the potential impact to operations at Washington Elementary during construction.

Preliminary work could begin as early as this **Friday, October 13th**. Please be reminded that this is a non-school day. The work that could have the most impact on our school is tentatively scheduled to begin on **Monday, October 16th**. The contractors are hopeful that work required immediately in front of Washington Elementary on SE Byers can be completed within a 3 - 5 day window. During this time, heavy equipment will be trenching and work crews will be removing and replacing existing natural gas lines. Normal traffic flows should not be impacted other than potential slower than usual traffic speeds as vehicles and busses travel through the construction area. Traffic control professionals (flaggers) will be present during construction to minimize traffic congestion as well as assist school crossing guards.

Please remind your child to stay out of marked construction areas. If your student is walking to and from school, remind them to use sidewalks, designated crosswalks and to follow crossing guard directions. Parents, I ask you for your patience and ask you to allow for additional time to get in and out of Washington school.

Finally, although we do not anticipate any issues related to student health and safety during construction, Washington Elementary staff will be reviewing school emergency procedures in the event of gas line related issues.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have questions at 541-276-6711. Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully,

Chris Fritsch
Superintendent