The City of Omaha will advertise for bids to separate the sewers in Webster Street on January 13, 2008 and open bids on February 13, 2008. If successful a project to install two sanitary sewer and one large storm sewer will start on Webster Street east of campus in late March. The sewer project will extend to 20th and Webster and progress north in Webster to Cuming Street.

While the project is under construction, Webster Street will be excavated from curb to curb. A large excavation is planned for the intersection at 20th and Webster to allow room for the turn to the north. 20th Street will be excavated from curb to curb during that phase of work. Detour routes for those that use 20th Street will be posted to move traffic east to 16th. Traffic from Cass to Webster on 20th Street will be two-way during the time 20th Street is closed. Specifications will be drafted instructing the contractor not to start work before 7:00 am to keep noise levels down during the night. The street lights along 20th Street will be temporarily connected so there can be night lighting.

An exact schedule is difficult to present at this time because the potential contractor has not had any input. The thought is that the work on 20th Street will begin in August. As work is done, the driving surface of the streets will be opened when a temporary surface is installed. There is a sense of urgency given to the re-opening parking lot east of the new Wareham Building.

Webster Street from 17th to 20th will be re-opened as a pedestrian mall per the University Master Plan. The parking lots that now access Webster will be re-directed to other streets.

The City is planning to accomplish sewer lines in Cuming during 2009. The Cuming Street project is from 20th to 27th. Current thinking is that the project will go from Right-Of-Way line to Right-Of-Way line removing all the existing streets, curbs, and sidewalks. Additionally, the project will call for three phases of work closing Cuming from 20th to 24th in a phase, Phase two would be crossing 24th and the remaining phase is from 24th to 27th Street. More detail is pending on this future work.

A public meeting is scheduled for 4:00 on Dec 18, 2007 at the Metro Area Transit building at 23rd and Cuming. Please take your questions to the meeting.