



A contractor hired by Fort Wayne City Utilities has begun at Foster Park on the Three Rivers Protection and Overflow Reduction Tunnel (3RPort), the largest project ever undertaken by City Utilities. The purpose of the deep-rock tunnel project is to significantly reduce the amount of combined stormwater and sanitary sewage that is discharged to the City's three rivers each year.

The worksite, which has caused the entrance to Foster Park to be modified temporarily, will be the location of the retrieval shaft for a tunnel boring machine (TBM). The machine will begin its five-mile long journey at the Water Pollution Control (sewage treatment) Plant on Dwenger Avenue on Fort Wayne's east side. The TBM will travel underground following a path generally parallel to the Maumee and St. Mary's Rivers. The machine will be retrieved from underground at Foster Park. The tunnel boring machine will do its work approximately 220 feet below ground.

Work at the Foster Park site in November 2017 will include:

- Installation of temporary fencing around the construction site
- Clearing and tree removal near the river bank
- Top soil removal within the perimeter fencing
- Site leveling and earth work
- Mobilization of equipment for retrieval shaft excavation

The River Greenway trail along the St. Marys River will remain open.

Trees have to be taken down at Foster Park that present a safety issue. There will be cranes at the site, and trees present a safety hazard to the workers as they operate the equipment.

The Retrieval Shaft at Foster Park also functions as a drop shaft. The drop shaft will take the large quantities of flow from the Combined Sewer Overflow outfall at Rudisill Boulevard and direct it to the tunnel instead of the St. Marys River.

Much more information about the Tunnel Works program and its impact on river water quality may be found at www.FortWayneTunnel.org