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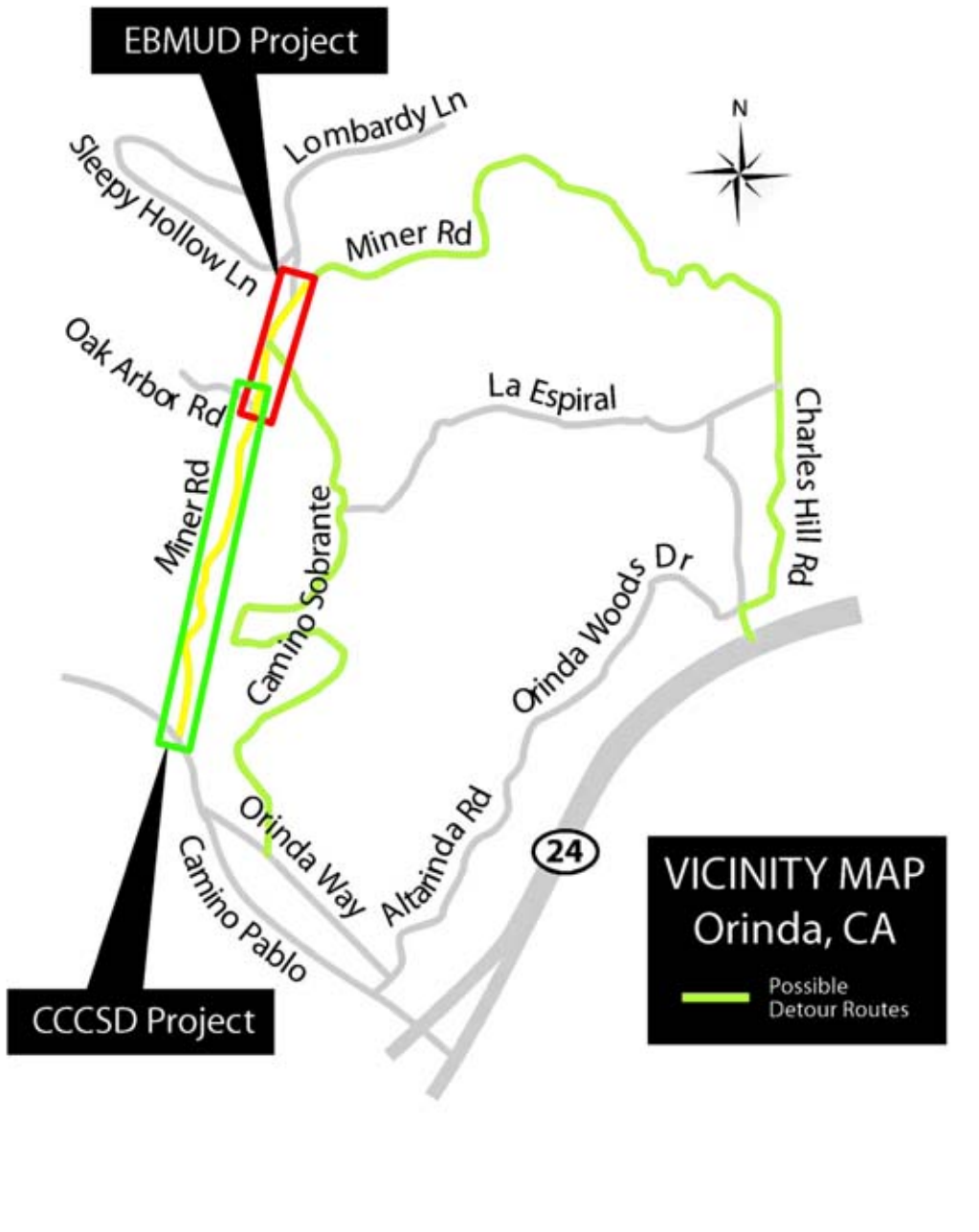
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Miner Roadworks May Be Major Disruption

By Andrea A. Firth



Miner Road Pipeline Project Phase 1 Maps provided by EBMUD

Miner Road will get a much needed facelift this summer with the installation of a new water pipeline, an improved sewer line, and ultimately a new surface. Residents who live on, around, or en route to or from Miner Road might want to start planning now for an early and extended vacation.

Both the East Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and the Contra Costa County Sanitary District (CCCSD) have plans to be working on Miner Road starting in mid-June. Single-lane passage, road closures, and detours will be necessary to navigate traffic throughout the project. Extensive planning and coordination has gone into the two projects to minimize the time that residents will be inconvenienced, but slower traffic and longer commute times in this part of the city is inevitable.

EBMUD Pipeline Improvement Project. Starting around June 15th, EBMUD will install 1,400 feet of new pipeline along Miner Road between Oak Arbor Road and Lombardy Lane as part of a two-phase project to support the future water demands in the area. Phase 2, scheduled for 2012, will include the construction of a new pumping plant and an additional 3,900 feet of new pipeline.

Because Miner Road is narrow and has little or no shoulder, closing the road to all traffic is necessary for EBMUD to work in this section. Drivers will be redirected to detour routes on Camino Sobrante and then Charles Hill Road as the work progresses. The City has requested EBMUD to work extended hours between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on weekdays to expedite the completion of the project. Outside of the weekday work hours (after 9 p.m. and up til 9 a.m.) and on weekends, Miner Road will be re-opened to two-way traffic. The project will move forward about 100 feet a day and is projected to take six weeks or possibly less to complete.

Sewer Renovation from Camino Pablo to Oak Arbor. The timing of CCCSD's trunk sewer renovation project on Miner Road will coincide with the EBMUD project. The majority of the CCCSD work will be completed underground without impacting the road surface. Intermittent single-lane closures on Miner between Camino Pablo and Oak Arbor Roads and smaller streets nearby [Camino Lenada, Bien Venida, Camino Don Miguel, and Oak Arbor] will be necessary. These single-lane closures will occur about one day a week outside of high-traffic times. The sewer improvement project will address the cracks, broken pipe, and extensive root infestation across 3,600 feet of the 58-year old clay sewer pipe.

CCCSD will be working around the clock periodically throughout the project when the new pipe lining is cured; this will not result in additional road closures.

Anything Else? The City has planned an overlay project for Charles Hill Road - one of the detour routes - funded through the newly available stimulus package infrastructure funds. The exact timing for the Charles Hill project is unknown but will not overlap with the EBMUD project according to Orinda's Public Works and Engineering Director Chuck Swanson.

Burying the overhead PG&E utility lines along Miner Road has also been discussed along with the possibility of widening the road to allow the addition of a walkway and/or bike path. The City Council plans to address the PG&E plans and timing at an upcoming meeting.

Miner Rd closed from Oak Arbor Rd to Camino Sobrante

Alternate route along Camino Sobrante

PHASE A



VICINITY MAP Orinda, CA

Proposed Detours

Miner Rd closed from Camino Sobrante to Lombardy Ln

Alternate routes along Miner Rd to Charles Hill Rd

PHASE B



VICINITY MAP Orinda, CA

Proposed Detours

Reach the reporter at: andrea@lamorindaweekly.com

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