Clemson Streetscape project nearing completion of latest phase

BY GREG OLIVER
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CLEMSON — The Clemson downtown Streetscape project, which began last year, is nearing completion of its latest phase.

"All water and sewer has been completed and all utilities have been installed, tested and completed," said Clemson Assistant City Administrator Andy Blondeau Monday. "All lights are up on Keith Street and should be operating by the end of the day today."

Blondeau added that the work should be finished by the end of the week.

"It looks like we're going to make it — barring any kind of major weather catastrophe," he said. "We're just paving roads, starting Monday on Finley and then moving to McCollum Street before moving to Keith Street."

Clemson University students are scheduled to arrive this weekend and start classes the middle of next week. Town and Country Construction, which is in charge of Phase 1B of the multi-phase Streetscape project, is contractually bound to finish the work prior to their arrival.

Last month, Blondeau told City Council members that Town and Country crew members were working weekends in order to catch up on work delayed when Clemson experienced rainy weather in June.



Road paving in downtown Clemson will wind down Phase 1B of the downtown Streetscape project, set for completion later this week.

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The multi-phase improvement to streets and sidewalks along downtown Clemson began last summer with the beginning of a two-part initial phase from Keith Street to S.C. Highway 93.

Initial work consisted of water and sewer improvements as well as storm drainage work while Phase 1B includes sidewalk improvements, landscaping, overhead utility relocation, on-street parking and decorative street lighting as well as new directional/information kiosk structures.

Blondeau said kiosks would also be installed this week and that limited parking that occurred last week due to construction has "been straightened out." Landscaping of the area, including the planting of trees and shrubs, will take place sometime this fall.

Next summer, the Streetscape project moves on to Zone 2 — from Strode to Keowee Trail. That will involve the same type of work as has already taken place.

Zone 3, the final phase, will consist of the historic Calhoun district and its startup is contingent on when the bridge replacement project —already experiencing delays — is completed.

"The intent for that (Calhoun) area, when you walk in, is to have more of a historical feel to it," Blondeau said. "Sidewalks will be newer material with an old feel to it. There will be a distinction to it."

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