



City of Franklin

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CITY OF FRANKLIN ANNOUNCES OPENING OF WEST PUETZ ROAD
FOLLOWING SINKHOLE REPAIRS**

FRANKLIN, WI., (June 27, 2024) – The City of Franklin Department Public Works announced today that the repairs to the West Puetz Road sinkhole, located just east of the Root River Bridge from S. 51st – S. 68th streets, have been completed and the road will officially reopen **by noon on June 28, 2024.**

City of Franklin Department Public Works, Kevin Schlueter, said that the many “unknowns” his team discovered during the almost four-week project is what prolonged the repairs. “The largest issue was finding that the leak in the damaged MMSD pipe was 30’ down, and we needed to find a company with equipment that was able to do repairs that far from the surface. We were lucky that overall, the weather cooperated, and we partnered with great contractors to get this repaired thoroughly and correctly,” said Schlueter.

“Kevin, Mike Roberts our Superintendent with our Department of Sewer and Water Utilities, and their incredible teams, worked rigorously and nonstop to make sure this project was completed correctly. There were a few substantial issues that came up, and Mike and Kevin stopped at nothing to find solutions,” said City of Franklin Mayor John Nelson. “I take my hat off to these two departments, and want to thank the community and the drivers who utilize W. Puetz Road for their patience.”

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*** The City of Franklin Department of Sewer and Water have provided photos to show the massive scope and depth of the West Puetz Rd. sinkhole project.*