Welcome to the eleventh edition of the Revitalizing Broad Street Improvement Project’s RECONNECTING newsletter. In this issue, you will find out what is happening now and what comes next, as well as information on historic artifacts discovered during construction.

HISTORY: UNCOVERED MOBILE

During road construction projects, it is common to unearth hidden historic infrastructure. As construction workers were working near the Roundabout, a previously unknown manhole was found with an expansion plug seal beneath the lid. The lid was stamped with the letters MLRRCO. This was an old electrical manhole for the Mobile Light and Railroad Company, which operated the old trolley downtown between 1897 and 1939.

The Electric Railway Company ran its first train in January 1893. The route ran from a terminal on Dauphin and Jackson to a terminal on Virginia and Marine. There was another streetcar system in Mobile that started in the 1860s called Mobile Street Railway. In 1903, the systems were combined into Mobile Light and Railway. After the death of J. Howard Wilson, the President of the streetcar company, in 1939 the company was sold to National City Lines.

In 1939, the streetcar system was renamed Mobile City Lines. During this time, buses were coming on the scene, and eventually replaced all streetcars. Today, the Mobile City lines is also known as The Wave, Mobile’s main public transportation system.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- **BROAD STREET**: Crews are preparing temporary traffic lights in anticipation of the opening of the Springhill Avenue intersection opening.
- **ROUNDABOUT**: Curb work and slope paving will continue and near completion. Landscaping work will continue right behind concrete work.
BROAD STREET CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

PROJECT NEWS

- Crews are working to install all new utilities along Broad Street. Before utilities can be completed, conduits must be installed. A conduit is plastic piping that contains the wires, lines, or fibers for utilities, such as internet or phone lines. One of these conduits has been stubbed up, or bent at a 90° angle, at Springhill Avenue.

- Crews are working on adding storm sewer systems and placing crushed aggregate base at the Springhill Avenue intersection. Crews are doing more work on housekeeping as the current phase wraps up.

ROUNDABOUT CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

PROJECT NEWS

- Construction crews are have finished landscaping the center of the roundabout. The center ring and the truck apron have also been completed.

- Crews continue to work on building curbs and slope paving. As curbs are built, a crushed aggregate base will be added where needed.