

Mall/Concourse Monthly Report June 2014

Mowing is in full swing downtown in the Mall Concourse service area. The crew has been cutting everything weekly, and it's the season when it's very difficult to keep up with the grass growth. We've been getting adequate rain, but even so we'll soon be programming the irrigation, as the elevated grass planters dry out quickly.

We've been working hard at weed control in the daylily beds in the middle of the 100 block of Wisconsin Avenue, and we'll soon be mulching the beds. We'll also program the irrigation again – the watering heads, when installed, were not ideally placed, but they still provide some moisture for the plants.

Sidewalk washing is ongoing, as in recent months. We've been working around some pavement repair projects meant to address the disintegration of the aggregate around many of the sidewalk joints. We hope the repairs are successful, as the alternative is asphalt cold-patch in the widening cracks.

Ride the Drive Downtown kicked off the new month on June 1st. The event, though slightly scaled back, was still a success. Rain threatened all day, but the storms and the 2" of rain held off until the very end of cleanup. Materials will be sorted and put away over the next few days and the Mall shop will soon return to normal.

As we look further into June, we'll see Cows on the Concourse, Cars on State, and the first of the Concerts on the Square. Rhythm and Booms is also moving downtown from Warner Park this year, with fireworks being shot from a barge on Lake Monona. This promises to provide virtually unlimited viewing points from John Nolen Drive and all around the lake, as well as a new and challenging traffic situation on the isthmus.