



MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA CONTACT
Meghan Jansen
816-804-8882 (cell)
816-859-7019 (desk)
info@kcstreetcar.org

Sparks Will Fly as KC Streetcar Constructors Starts Welding

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Kansas City will see sparks fly this week as KC Streetcar Constructors begins welding the more than 800 tons of steel rail that will make up the downtown streetcar line.

- WHAT:** Rail Welding
- WHEN:** Beginning Wednesday, May 28 and lasting up to four weeks.
NOTE: A limited number of test welds will be done on May 28. Timing will vary. Recommended day for best rail welding visuals is Thursday, May 29. Please call (816) 804-8882 the morning of May 29 to verify times. Beginning May 29, work will take place Monday - Friday, 7:00am-4:00pm for up to four weeks.
- WHERE:** 1800 Block of Walnut Street, in front of the KC Streetcar Constructors Office located in the Corrigan Building. As a result, Walnut Street will be closed from 18th Street to 19th Street, including the eastside sidewalk. There will be no on-street parking on Walnut Street between 18th Street and 20th Street beginning May 28 and throughout the duration of the welding. Additionally, as rail sticks are welded into larger “strings”, those strings will be moved to their staging location at the Main-Walnut Street Viaduct ramp at the intersection of 20th and Walnut Street.
- WHO:** The KC Streetcar Constructors Team will lead the activity, with the welding operation completed by subcontractor Holland Welding, which specializes in rail welding.
- HOW:** Using a welding technique called *Electric Flash-Butt Welding*, the ends of two sticks of rail are heated to about 2,800 degrees and then pressed together to create the weld. Throughout the process, multiple 312 ‘strings will be created, with each comprised of eight, 39’ sticks of rail. By completing the electric flash-butt weld now, the team minimizes the number of welds that will be completed in the field during track construction, which maximizes schedule efficiency.

ABOUT THE KC DOWNTOWN STREETCAR PROJECT

The two-mile, north-south Downtown Streetcar will travel along Main Street and connect the River Market to Crown Center and Union Station, serving the Central Business District, the Power and Light District, and the Crossroads Art District as well as numerous businesses, restaurants, art galleries, educational facilities and residents. For more information visit www.kcstreetcar.org, Facebook: [KC Streetcar](https://www.facebook.com/kcstreetcar), or Twitter: [@kcstreetcar](https://twitter.com/kcstreetcar) or email the team at info@kcstreetcar.org.

KC Streetcar Constructors (KCSC) is the project team building the two-mile Kansas City Downtown Streetcar starter line. KCSC is a joint venture of St. Joseph-based Herzog Contracting Corp. and California rail builder Stacy and Witbeck, Inc.

