

Detour

Prepare to
find a way
downtown

Construction on parts of two intersections in downtown Rapid City could begin as early as Wednesday, and when it begins, so will the detours.

Despite the detours, most of downtown will be accessible to traffic.

The work will be on the east half of the Fifth and Main streets intersection and at the west half of the intersection of Main Street and Mount Rushmore Road. It will be the first phase of reconstruction of 10 blocks of Main Street — from East Boulevard to West Boulevard — which is to be completed next year.

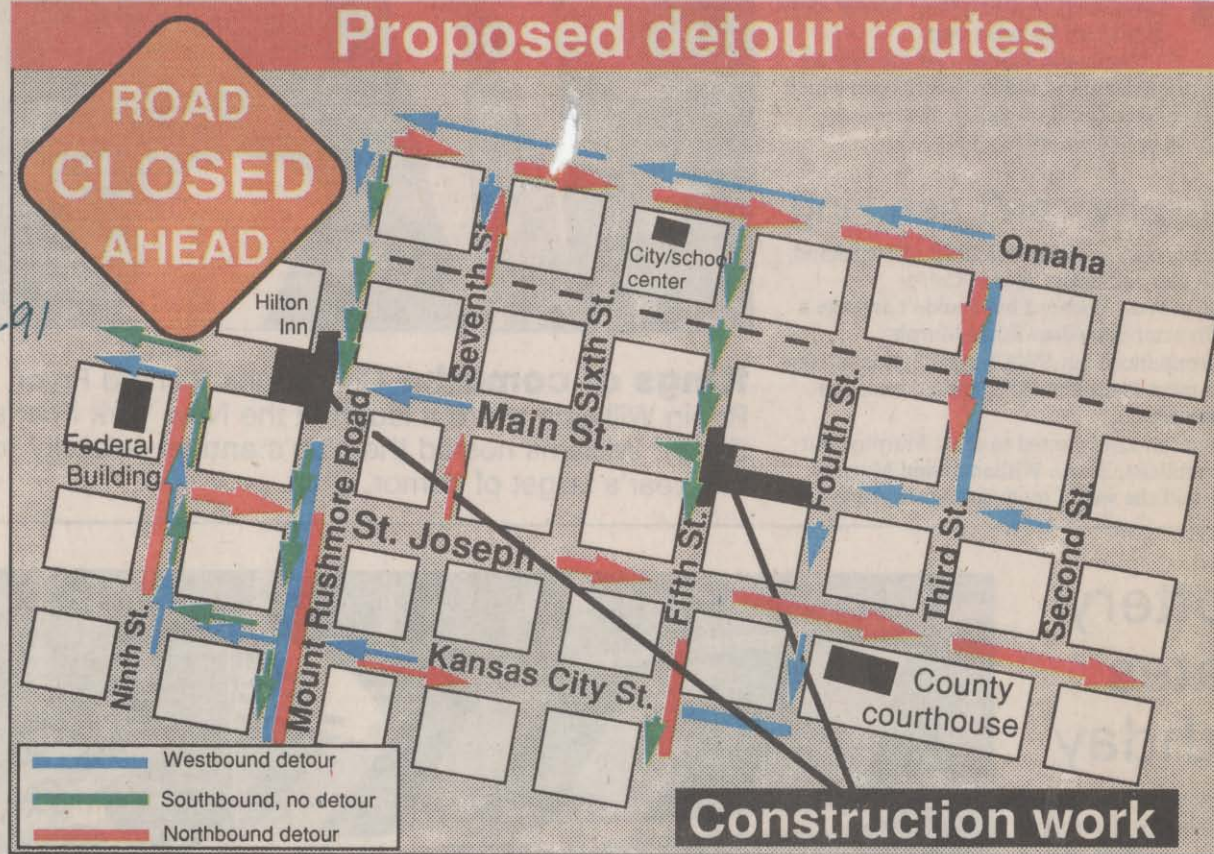
"We would like to get (those two intersections) done this year so when we get into the major part next year, they will be free and open," said Larry Kostaneski, manager of the city's engineering division.

Once the work on the two intersections begins, southbound traffic will continue through the intersections as usual but northbound traffic will be subject to detours.

Although Main Street is a one-way westbound street, during this phase of construction, traffic at Ninth and Main will be able to go east on Main Street up to the point where construction begins at the intersection of Mount Rushmore Road and Main.

That one block will be set up like a cul-de-sac during this fall's construction, as will part of the one block west of the intersection of Fourth and Main.

Temporary traffic signals will be installed at Seventh and



Omaha streets and Third and Omaha streets, and construction cannot begin until those signals are operational.

Work at the two intersections is to be completed by Thanksgiving. Under its contract, Heavy Constructors must be out of the downtown core area from then until Jan. 6, 1992. If work has not been completed before Thanksgiving, the company is still obligated to patch the street so traffic is unimpeded for the Christmas shopping season.

Another public meeting about the project is planned

within a week. The time and place of the meeting will be announced later.

The Main Street reconstruction means the street will be torn up from storefront to storefront and rebuilt from the underground utilities up, two blocks at a time.

The street will get new curb and gutter, surfacing and sidewalk. Existing water mains, water services and a new storm sewer will be built and conduit for future lighting and irrigation installed. Work is to be completed by Nov. 1, 1992, weather permitting.