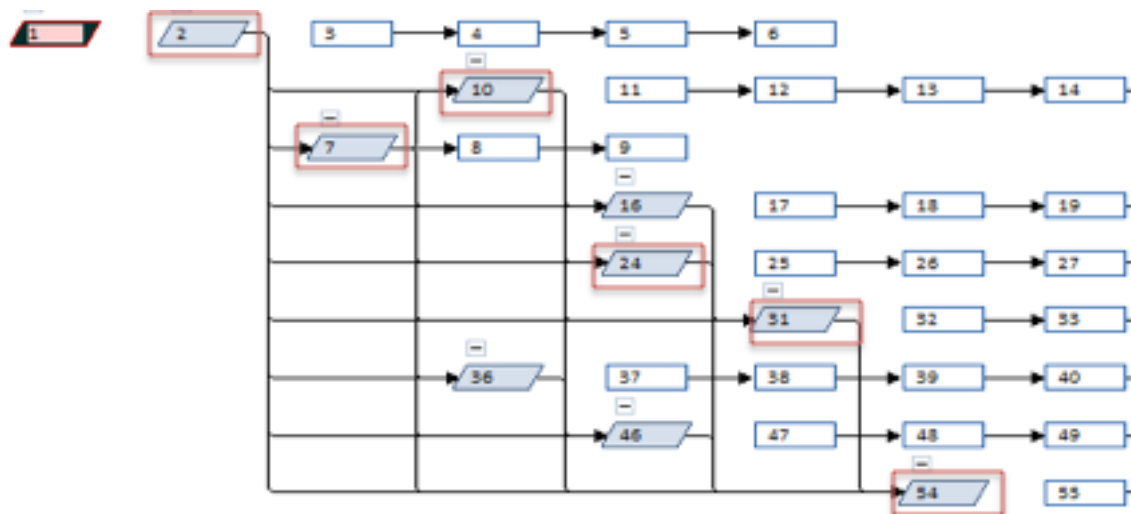


Network Diagram

The WBS is a great starting point to understanding the work to be done in the project, however, the analysis needs to be taken a step further before a schedule can be created. The network diagram for the Backyard Makeover Project shown below in Figure 2, is a flow-chart showing the tasks and their relationships to one another. It also takes into consideration the duration of each task, which can be seen in Table 2. Due to the size of the figure taken from Microsoft Project, it had to be broken into two sections to include all tasks.

The network diagram also shows the critical path of major tasks (with outline in red), Task # 2—7—10—24—31—54. This is the longest path through the project. The major tasks are only Level 2 of the decomposition, so they have been broken further into the smallest Level 3, called work packages. This decomposition of the Statement of Work (SOW) and the identification of the critical path of tasks are essential to the creation of the schedule for the Backyard Makeover Project. The critical path allows the PM to determine where fast-tracking and crashing is possible, and where the schedule cannot be compressed due to the high risk posed to the entire project.



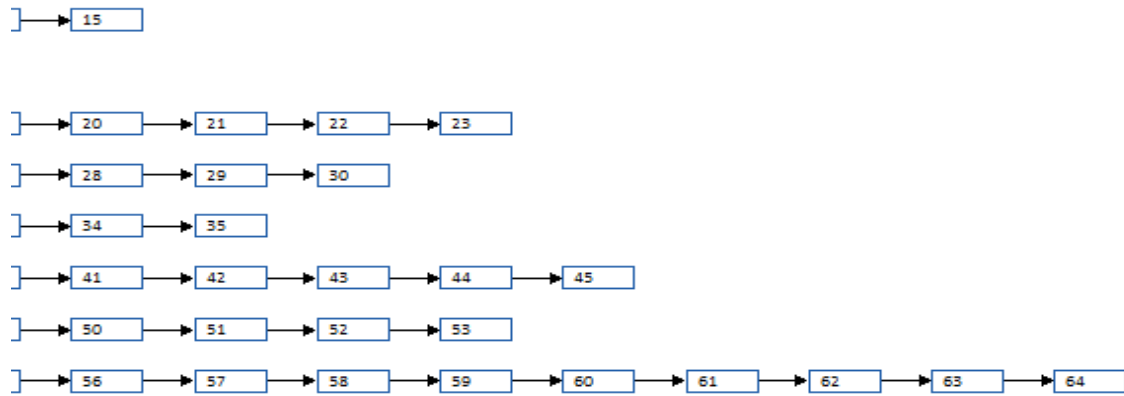


Figure 2. Backyard Makeover Project Network Diagram