



Transportation Project Updates February 2021

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2021 Construction Projects

South Industrial Concrete Pavement Repairs

This project consists of spot repairs of the concrete pavement. The project will include the addition of bike lanes. The work is anticipated to begin in April or May.

Scio Church Road (Maple to Seventh)

The project includes watermain and stormwater work, resurfacing, installation of bike lanes, new sidewalk, and crosswalks. More information is available on the project [website](#). City Council approved removal of on-street parking in favor of buffered bike lane installation at their November 16 meeting. Construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2021.

Sidewalk Gaps

On the November 3 ballot, voters approved the New Sidewalk Millage, which will be the primary funding source for sidewalk gap filling projects going forward. While funding from the new millage will not be available until after July 1, 2021, there are several sidewalk gap projects that are proposed to advance to construction at some point in 2021. These tentatively include:

- Barton Dr. (Brede to Pontiac)
- Boardwalk (east side from end of sidewalk to Oakbrook)
- Jackson Ave. (Wagner to Park Lake)
- ~~Manchester Dr. (near Washtenaw)~~ – removed from 2021 list due to park frontage & associated funding issue. Will be reprogrammed for a later year
- Scio Church (Landmark to Seventh; as part of the project listed above)
- Stimson (State to end of gaps)
- Yost/Eli (2609 frontage)

Ellsworth/Research Park Drive Intersection

Directional boring for underground utilities and signal connections occurred the week of November 9, 2020. The steel poles and mast arms are on order and are expected to be delivered in the coming months. The work is expected to be completed in the spring.

Lane Reconfiguration

Staff evaluated the feasibility of lane conversions of several segments of roadway and presented the findings to the Transportation Commission in February 2019. Among those up for consideration (in addition to those already voted on by Council) were:



- South Industrial (Stimson to 800 feet south of Stimson) – a lane reconfiguration is being considered as part of the S. Industrial concrete repair project identified above. Public engagement is expected to occur in March

At their January 19, 2021 meeting, City Council passed [Resolution R-21-022](#) which rescinded previous Resolution R-19-139. This action removes the requirement that City Council approve road reconfigurations (aka road diets). A notification requirement of 15 days prior to implementation was included in the new action.

Projects Currently in Design/Planning

People Friendly Streets Initiative

First Street construction wrapped up for the season, with final construction and restoration to two-way traffic in summer 2021. The First Street Bikeway is substantially complete from Huron Street to William Street. The bikeway north of Huron Street will be complete this coming construction season, including a dedicated bikeway signal at Huron Street. Final pavement markings will also be installed summer 2021. People for Bikes ranked the First Street Bikeway as one of [America's Best New Bikeways of 2020](#). Ashley Street is scheduled to begin late February 2021.

People-Friendly Streets Part 2

Public engagement is planned for March 9, 10, and 11; participation details will be provided when available. On Monday, July 6, City Council approved [Healthy Streets Pilot Projects Downtown](#), a summary and detailed technical report can be found on the [project website](#).

Other Updates and Information

“Healthy Streets” - Transportation opportunities for social distancing

City Council approved a resolution to fund the design of a 2021 Healthy Streets program at their January 19, 2021 meeting. Staff has been working on three elements the Healthy Streets 2021 program. For the Neighborhood Healthy Streets program, staff has developed an updated mapping tool and language to communicate the 2021 program to interested citizens.

For the arterial streets, outside of downtown, staff has drafted a request for a work plan from Hubbell Roth & Clark (HRC) consulting. HRC is reviewing staff input and feedback from last year's program to include as they draft a proposal to design the 2021 Healthy Streets Arterial program.

Lastly, working with DDA staff, two primary corridors, Division and Miller/Catherine are under consideration of amended street designs in accordance with the DDA's People Friendly Streets program. Recognizing these streets are undergoing design in the spring for possible construction latter in 2021, it was agreed to not invest short term healthy streets resources that would be supplanted by improvements to be installed in the summer/fall season.

**EV Readiness Ordinance**

The Transportation Electrification subcommittee of the Energy Commission have worked for over a year to develop an EV Readiness Ordinance for Ann Arbor. The ordinance requires new buildings and major building retrofits to provide varying levels of EV charging infrastructure in parking spaces. The ordinance requires certain spots to be either EV-Capable, EV-Ready, or EV-installed. The ordinance passed unanimously on January 19, 2021.

Smart Growth America's COVID and Curb Report

Ann Arbor, alongside 16 other communities, was chosen by Smart Growth America's Transportation for America's (T4A) to participate in the [Smart Cities Collaborative](#). The project changed significantly in scope due to the pandemic and the final report is available [online](#).