



## Legislation Text

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### Miller Avenue Public Engagement Plan

The purpose of this memo is to present the following Public Engagement Plan to City Council for comment.

The Project Management Services Unit is beginning work on a project to make improvements to the Miller Avenue Corridor between North Maple Road and North Main Street. In the near term, we intend to focus on two segments of this road where the pavement is in particularly poor shape:

**Segment #1.** Chapin to North Main (approximately 1,300 feet) - This segment of Miller is relatively short and located primarily in the downtown area. Due to the confined nature of streets in the downtown area, the scope of work will likely be limited primarily to road reconstruction, some utility replacements, and some possible storm water improvements, which would occur within the existing footprint of the road. Construction may occur in 2010.

**Segment #2.** Maple to Newport (approximately 4,700 feet) - This segment of Miller Ave. is a much longer segment, located in a primarily residential neighborhood. Some needs that have already been identified on this segment include road reconstruction, storm water management opportunities, improved bicycle facilities, pedestrian crossings, filling in sidewalk gaps, and multiple utility replacements. Construction may occur in 2011.

Our current plan for beginning work on this corridor is to start design work for the reconstruction of Segment #1 as soon as possible. Having a completed design prepared by 2010 will allow for the possibility of using Federal funding for the construction of the project. During this process, we will involve local business owners and other stakeholders, and receive input from them regarding the details of the project design and construction.

At the time Segment #1 is being designed, we plan to begin the public engagement process for Segment #2. The reasoning behind this is that, while Segment #1 will have relatively few visible changes in the public right-of-way, Segment #2 has many more scoping issues, as discussed above, which will require a more in-depth public discussion.

With this in mind, we have prepared the following outline for a Public Engagement Process for the Maple to Newport segment (Segment #2) of Miller Avenue:

I. Conduct a Kickoff Meeting to present the project to the public. (Time frame: last week of March or first week of April, 2009) At this meeting we would:

- a. Present the “needs” currently identified on this corridor
- b. Gather initial input from the public
- c. Form a Design Advisory Committee (DAC) from interested stakeholders. Potential parties to be involved:

- Local Residents
- Neighborhood Associations
- City of Ann Arbor (Project Management, Systems Planning, Field Services, Planning, Parks, Communications)
- City Council Members
- Planning Commission
- Washtenaw County Drain Commission
- ALT Transportation
- Public Schools
- AATA
- Allen's Creek Group

The purpose of the DAC would be to provide guidance to the design team in regards to various design alternatives, and assist in developing the various motorized, non-motorized, pedestrian, and storm water improvements for this corridor.

II. Conduct approximately 2 meetings (or more, as necessary) with the Design Advisory Committee (Time frame: April/May)

III. Create conceptual/preliminary designs (June 2009)

IV. Conduct a second public meeting to present conceptual designs to the public (July 2009)

Please forward any comments and/or questions to our project manager Nick Hutchinson (769-6410 x 43633) at the Project Management Services Unit.

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