



Transportation Project Updates March 2020

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2020 Construction Projects

Allen Creek Berm Opening:

Work has begun on this project. The project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2020.

Annual Sidewalk Repair Program:

This program is an annual project to repair sidewalks throughout the City. Further information on the program and a list of 2020 target areas can be found at a2gov.org/Sidewalks. Construction is expected to begin in May.

Annual Street Resurfacing Project:

This suite of projects encompasses the majority of the City's street resurfacing activities, including several major and multiple local streets. Included in the 2020 program are Boardwalk (Eisenhower to north end), Granger (State to Packard), Geddes Ave (Church to Observatory), asphalt path resurfacing on Oakbrook and South Main Street, and a number of residential street resurfacing projects, which will be concentrated in the neighborhood around Dicken Elementary School. A full list of streets is posted on the website at: a2gov.org/RoadConstruction. Construction is expected to begin in May.

Barton Drive (M-14 to Pontiac):

This project is currently in the design phase. The scope includes street resurfacing, watermain improvements, new sidewalk construction, and intersection reconfiguration at the Chandler intersection. Also included in the project is the reconfiguration of the Barton/Starwick intersection, and the possible filling of sidewalk gaps at this location.

Staff is moving ahead with the proposal to install sidewalk on the north side of Barton Drive from Brede to Pontiac, and at the Barton/Starwick intersection. Resolution #2 for these sidewalks was approved by City Council on February 18. Staff is currently proposing a Resolution on the April 6 Council agenda to move funding from the Resident-Driven Sidewalk Gap Filling Program to this project to help offset the cost of the special assessment to adjacent residents. The April 6 Council agenda also includes, Resolution #3, which would set the public hearing date for the special assessment for May 4, along with Resolution #4 to approve the final special assessment roll.

Fuller Court/Nixon/Traver Sidewalk Gap Project:

This project includes the filling of sidewalk gaps on Fuller Ct. (south side) from Fuller Road to 2250 Fuller Ct. and on Nixon/Traver (west/north side) from end of existing sidewalk to Logan Elementary.



An administrative hearing for the proposed special assessment was held the evening of February 5. Resolution #2 for the Special Assessment District is currently scheduled to go to City Council on April 6. Resolution #3, which would set the public hearing date for the special assessment for May 4, along with Resolution #4 to approve the final special assessment roll.

Construction is planned for late summer 2020.

Huron Street Improvements:

Construction on the north side of Huron, between Division and Main Street, resumed in early March 2020.

MDOT provided a response regarding the requested transportation and safety elements:

1. Leading pedestrian intervals at signalized intersections between First and Division Streets: MDOT is of the opinion that adequate walk time already exists and noted that adding pedestrian walk time could negatively affect the vehicular operations at the subject intersections. City/DDA staff will follow up with MDOT to discuss in more detail.
2. Third and Chapin full signal: Approved. MDOT installation planned for spring 2021.
3. Restricted Right Turns: Approved. MDOT installation planned for late summer 2020.
4. Permissive/Protected left turn phase at 5th Avenue: Approved. MDOT installation planned for spring 2021.
5. Non-Rush Hour Parking: Denied.

Jackson Avenue and Washtenaw Avenue Sidewalk Gap Project:

This project includes the filling of a sidewalk gap on Jackson Avenue (south side) from Westover Avenue to Park Lake Avenue. Also included is the construction of a Non-motorized Path along the south side of Washtenaw Ave (north of the service drive) from S. Huron Parkway to Pittsfield Boulevard.

Design is complete and construction bids are due on March 17 for the Jackson Avenue Sidewalk Gap Project. The cost of the project will be special assessed to the adjacent property owners as it is first-time construction. An Administrative Meeting was held March 12 with the benefitting property owners. A summary of this meeting will be posted on the project website when available. Resolution #2 for this sidewalk project is scheduled to go to City Council for approval on April 6.

Construction of both projects is planned for Summer 2020.

**Plymouth Road Capital Maintenance**

This project consists of a thin milling and repaving of the asphalt surface from Nixon Road to Murfin. No major changes to the lane configurations or crosswalks are anticipated. The work is currently scheduled for May 2020.

William Street Improvements:

Permanent pavement markings are scheduled for spring 2020, dependent on consistent dry weather and temperatures above 50 degrees. DDA, Transportation, Public Works, and AAPD staff have been coordinating efforts. This collaboration will inform minor adjustments to the bikeway and on-street education, enforcement, and engagement this spring. Staff are compiling an initial project update and will oversee a more detailed project analysis in late fall 2020.

Education is on-going. Resources can be found at

<http://www.peoplefriendlystreets.org/educational-resources/>

Projects Currently in Design/Planning**Scio Church Road (Maple to Seventh):**

The project includes some watermain and stormwater work, resurfacing, installation of bike lanes, new sidewalk, and crosswalks. More information is available on the project [website](#). This project is scheduled for construction in 2021.

Nixon Road Corridor Improvements Design:

As directed by City Council, staff is beginning the design of the corridor improvements recommended by the Corridor Improvement Study conducted by OHM Advisors (a2gov.org/Nixon). The design of this project was undertaken by Wade Trim Associates and is now being completed.

Construction of the first phase of the project is currently shown in the CIP for 2025. Council passed a budget amendment indicating a desire to explore moving the first phase of construction up to 2021. A report was submitted to Council and the Transportation Commission in February that outlined updated costs, funding sources, and impacts of moving the project forward.

People Friendly Streets Initiative:

First Street construction is scheduled to begin in April 2020, with Ashley Street beginning spring 2021.

In December 2019, the DDA Board approved funding for another round of People-Friendly Streets Projects – a collaborative effort with City Engineering. This next round of projects will continue the community conversation about safe, equitable streets in coordination with other on-going efforts, including the City's Transportation Master Plan and Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The initial goals are to expand the protected



bikeway network, address utility and maintenance needs, advance Carbon Neutrality and Vision Zero, and focus infrastructure investments to support affordable housing development.

The DDA, in collaboration with City Engineering, issued a Request for Qualification (RFQ) to begin the public engagement and design process. In March 2020, the DDA Board approved a contract with SmithgroupJJR, teamed with Toole Design Group and Wade Trim. Design and public engagement will begin spring 2020.

Other Updates and Information

Curbside Management Study:

The study will evaluate current curbside use and shape strategies to manage the curbside in a more equitable and informed way. The project emphasis is on using goals to guide management and programming decisions, particularly as it relates to commercial goods delivery and loading, transportation network company (TNC) pick-up/drop-off, and parking (i.e. accessible parking, bike parking, motorcycle parking). DDA staff are currently working on a request for qualifications (RFQ) to initiate the project. Additionally, Ann Arbor was selected as a peer city for Transportation for America's Smart Cities Collaborative (<http://smartcities.t4america.org/>). City and DDA staff will participate in this initiative which is focused on curbside management.

MDOT Coordination:

The City has regular coordination with MDOT on State projects within the City. MDOT allows for local installed improvements on their facilities, subject to their review. In addition to the updates provided above under Huron Street updates, some projects currently being coordinated with MDOT include:

- Jackson Ave. – MDOT denied the request for an enhanced crosswalk at Jackson Ave near Weber's Inn, citing that an enhanced crosswalk was not warranted per their analysis. However, the City recently learned that MDOT will install a traffic signal at Jackson/I-94 ramp/Highlake Ave. The City will work with MDOT to ensure pedestrian crossings are included and that transit needs are also considered. This improvement will replace the need for the crossing near Weber's Inn. Huron and Thayer crosswalk – MDOT has agreed to a pedestrian hybrid beacon (aka HAWK) at this location. The City recently learned that this project is scheduled for construction in spring 2021.

Office of Sustainability and Innovations Update:

City Council passed a [resolution in support of creating a plan to achieve Ann Arbor community-wide climate neutrality by 2030](#) at their November 4, 2019 meeting. A website for the initiative known as A2Zero can be found at: <https://www.a2zero.org/>. A Town Hall to share the strategies was held on February 22, 2020. Strategies related to mobility focus on reducing the total number of vehicle miles travelled and transitioning remaining vehicle miles travelled to electric vehicles.

**Streetlight Implementation:**

14 new streetlights were installed so far in 2020. 218 streetlight outages have been addressed in 2020.

Traffic Calming Program Submittals:

Updates on recent Traffic Calming Program petitions are provided below:

- Fernwood (Lorraine to Packard): The first public engagement meeting was held on March 5, 2020.

Transportation Plan Update:

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held on February 20, 2020 from 9-11 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (301 E. Huron Street). Additionally, the Transportation Commission received an update on the Transportation Plan Update at their February 2020 meeting. The project is starting to develop projects and recommendations which will be publicly vetted later this year. Please [subscribe](#) to receive updates on this project.