



## Transportation Project Updates September 2021

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### **2021 Construction Projects**

#### **Annual Street Resurfacing Project**

This suite of projects encompasses the majority of the City's street resurfacing activities and includes some asphalt path resurfacing. The complete list of streets included in the 2021 program is posted on the [project website](#). Work continues on the second phase of the local street portion of the 2021 Street Resurfacing Project, which includes Canterbury, Chesterfield, Cranbrook, Dorchester, Manchester and Towner. The final paving on Towner from Dorchester to Canterbury fronting Allen Elementary School and on Canterbury from Beacon Hill to Platt was completed in advance of the August 30 start of school. The contractor expects to complete work on the remaining streets within the next two weeks with exception of Manchester, which will likely finish up in early October. Work is also underway to restore the traffic calming devices (speed humps, raised crosswalks and intersections) removed on Canterbury. Work continues on the second phase of the Packard asphalt path rehabilitation between Buhr Park to Colony Road with the paving being completed last week and the minor concrete work and slope restoration expected to be complete later this week, weather permitting.

#### **Plymouth Road Phase 2 (Murfin to lower Broadway)**

This project is a preventative maintenance project (partial depth milling & repaving), very similar in scope to the work that was just completed further east on Plymouth. The scope of this project includes the addition of buffered bike lanes in both directions. Construction started the week of August 30<sup>th</sup> and is expected to continue through October.

#### **Geddes Road Watermain**

This project consists of a watermain replacement between Windycrest and Earhart. The contractor has experienced delays in getting the watermain testing to pass. At this time, construction is expected to be completed around the end of September.

#### **South Industrial Concrete Pavement Repairs**

This project consists of spot repairs of the concrete pavement. The project will include the addition of bike lanes and a road diet in the four-lane segment immediately south of Stimson (conversion from four to three lanes to make room for bike lanes). Work on the concrete repairs has been completed and the road is currently open to traffic. The Resurfacing program will be scheduling a resurfacing of the asphalt segments of the road at the north and south ends of the road. This work is currently expected to occur the week of September 20<sup>th</sup>.



### **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](#). Some delays in the plan review process with MDOT have been experienced, which has now caused the start of construction activities to move to late winter/early spring of 2022.

### **Sidewalk Gaps**

Gaps in the sidewalk system that are expected to be filled in 2021 include (some tentative timelines shown in parentheses):

- Barton Drive (north side from Brede to Pontiac) (Fall)
- Boardwalk Drive (east side from Eisenhower to Oakbrook) (Fall)
- Jackson Avenue (south side from Wagner to Park Lake) – currently under construction
- Scio Church Road (north side from Landmark Court to Winsted and Greenview to Seventh) (Delayed to spring 2022)
- Stimson Street (both sides; near State Street) (Fall)
- Yost and Eli (at frontage of 2609 Yost Avenue) (Fall)
- Manchester (near Washtenaw) (Fall)

### **Huron Street Crosswalk Improvements (between Ingalls and Thayer)**

The streetlight was relocated on August 20, 2021 to provide positive contrast lighting. The improvements to the crosswalk, including the installation of RRFBs, is expected to be complete by September 10, 2021.

### **Bridge Maintenance Project**

This project consists of capital maintenance work on several of the City's bridges, including the Broadway bridges, the Fuller Road bridge (east of Maiden Lane), and the Island Drive bridge over Traver Creek. Construction has been completed on all three bridges, and the roads have been fully reopened to traffic.

### **North Main Street Stormwater Project**

This project is being conducted to replace a storm sewer pipe that previously passed beneath two buildings. Construction is now complete, and all lanes are fully open to traffic.

### **Crest & Liberty Watermain Project**

This project will be replacing watermain and resurfacing the streets on Crest between Liberty and Buena Vista, and on Liberty from Crest to South Seventh Street. During construction, Liberty will be closed to through traffic (with on eastbound lane open to local traffic only). Traffic on Liberty will be detoured using Stadium, Pauline, and Seventh Street. Construction is now underway and is scheduled to be completed by the end of October.



## **Projects Currently in Design/Planning**

### **Division Street**

This project consists of a two-way protected bike lane on the east side of Division between Packard and Catherine. Design and engineering are underway. Construction is anticipated to begin late September / early October.

### **William Street Bikeway Enhancements.**

This project consists of replacing delineators from Thompson to First Street with a curbed island. Delineators east of Thompson will be replaced by a removable curb to allow for flexibility during the Ann Arbor Art Fair. Intersection improvements at Fifth and Division and a raised bus stop are also included in this project. Construction is anticipated to begin late September.

### **Platt Road & Earhart Road**

This is a Federal aid project the consists of the resurfacing of Earhart Road between Geddes and Greenhills Drive; and Platt Road between Huron Parkway and Packard. The project scope includes some watermain work (on Platt), and potential bike lane and pedestrian improvements. Design work on the project is underway. A public engagement meeting was held for the Earhart Road portion of the project on August 31. Staff presented the scope of the project, which includes road resurfacing and paving the shoulders to provide bike lanes. Construction is scheduled for 2022.

### **Newport/Sunset Sidewalk Gap Project**

This project will construct new sidewalk on the east side of Newport Road from Sunset to Downup Circle and on the north side of Sunset from Newport to Brooks. Design is underway and construction is planned for 2022. This project will utilize Federal aid money (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program) leveraged by the City's New Sidewalk Millage. A virtual public engagement meeting for this project was held on August 11th, and a summary of this meeting is now available on the [project website](#). Many residents in the area voiced strong opposition to the project, particularly the portion along Sunset. City staff is currently discussing how to proceed on the project.

## **Other Updates and Information**

### **Ann Arbor Station**

The City received correspondence from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) indicating they were suspending their review of the project without completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. City staff is coordinating with MDOT and our Congressional office to ascertain what remedy may exist to address the FRA's posture and have them resume work through completion of the NEPA process. For additional background please visit the [project website](#).



### **“Healthy Streets” - Transportation opportunities for social distancing**

All contracting hurdles have been overcome and installation began in late August. At the writing of this report, deployments on the major roads (Main and Packard) were nearly complete except for delineators on Main which are on back-order. Staff has received some concerns about traffic backups resulting from the S. Main Street deployment. Staff is monitoring the situation and making adjustments to respond to the noted traffic issues. Deployment of neighborhood slow streets is still ongoing. Citizens have also responded to the Neighborhood streets deployment with a balance of those indicating appreciation and support with those that are opposed to the barricades and signs on neighborhood streets.

### **Lower Town Mobility Study:**

The final public meeting will be held on September 23, 2021 at 6pm via Zoom to discuss the final draft report. A presentation to the Transportation Commission is expected in September as well. More information about the project and engagement opportunities can be found on the [project website](#).

### **Streetlight Implementation**

19 crosswalks have been upgraded with positive contrast lighting (DTE) to date in 2021. 715 streetlight outages were addressed by DTE to date in 2021. Additionally, work has begun on streetlight maintenance which paints, replaces, or performs other preventive maintenance work on existing City-owned streetlights to ensure operability.

### **Traffic Calming Program Submittals**

The Traffic Calming Team is beginning work on the engagement phase for the next projects in the queue, with the intent to work on three of them concurrently. The next projects in queue are, in order:

- Longman-N. Fairview (Dexter to Jackson) – The first meeting in which an overview of the program and ‘starter ideas’ are shared will occur on September 9, 2021 at 6pm via Zoom. The second meeting which presents refined ideas based on input received is scheduled to occur October 14, 2021 at 6pm via Zoom.
- Northside Ave (Barton to Pontiac Trail) – The first meeting will likely be scheduled to occur in October and the second meeting in November.

### **Transportation Plan Update**

Staff has received three responses to RFP 21-25 and are in the midst of the formal selection process. The Selection Committee is comprised of five members including representatives from the Transportation Commission, Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition as well as staff. The project is to acquire professional services for development and execution of a Vision Zero Action Plan implementation strategy. The goal is to identify appropriate actions related to “Moving Together Towards Vision



Zero” Transportation Plan and putting them in place starting in FY 2022 . The RFP can be found [here](#).

The Moving Together Plan document and other related materials can be found on the [project website](#).