



Transportation Project Updates October 2017

2017 Construction Projects

Annual Street Resurfacing Project:

Encompasses the majority of the City's street resurfacing activities, including several major and multiple local streets (identified in the Project Management Services Unit 2017 Work Plan). Work began on May 15 and is scheduled to go through October. Work is currently occurring on South University, Forest, Liberty, and Miller. A full list of streets included in this project can be found at www.a2gov.org/roadconstruction.

Annual Sidewalk Repair Program:

An annual project to repair sidewalks throughout the City. Further information on the program and a list of 2017 target areas can be found at www.a2gov.org/sidewalks.

School Safety Improvements:

As referenced in the February 23, 2017 memo to City Council, Tier 1 & 2 work is now substantially complete. In addition to the replacing of signs and pavement markings (Tier 1), work that was completed included:

- a) Community High: Bumpouts on Division; gateway treatments on Division and Fifth
- b) Huron High: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) installation and gateway treatment at Gallup Park. Extension of the sidewalk on the south side of Fuller and relocation of the crosswalk has been postponed for further consideration. More information on this project will be provided when available. A grant has been received from Safe Kids Huron Valley to install changeable speed signs, which will be installed this Fall.
- c) Pathways to Success: RRFB and gateway treatment on Packard
- d) Pioneer High: RRFB on Seventh Street
- e) Forsythe/Wines: Gateway treatment at Newport & Red Oak
- f) Scarlett/Mitchell: Gateway treatment on Lorraine and ADA ramps
- g) Slauson: Crosswalk improvements on Eighth

See also 'Projects Currently in Design/Planning - School Safety Improvements' below and 'School Safety Improvements – End of August Update' provided in Appendix A.

RRFB Installations:

Installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) to enhance several crosswalks throughout the City. The locations for installations this year were selected from the 2013 Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update and from citizen requests. In addition to the locations mentioned in the School Safety Improvements section above, it is anticipated that approximately 8 additional locations will receive RRFB treatments in



2017. The construction contract for this project was approved by City Council on August 10, and work is expected to begin this fall.

Nixon/Green/Dhu Varren Intersection:

Realignment of Dhu Varren Road and the construction of a roundabout at the realigned intersection. In addition to City funds, this project also included funding from Toll Brothers (the adjacent developer) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding. Construction is now substantially complete, and the intersection is open to traffic.

Plymouth/Green Intersection:

Work continues on the replacement of the watermain and subsequent rebuilding of the roadway. Work in the Plymouth/Green intersection is now complete and the intersection is open to traffic. The current phase of work is being undertaken to repair the existing watermain under Plymouth Road west of the intersection. This second phase of work is scheduled to be completed in November.

Miller/Maple Sidewalk Gaps:

Filling of sidewalk gaps along the north side of Miller Avenue between Maple and M-14, and along part of the west side of Maple Road. The project is now complete and the sidewalk is open to pedestrian traffic. The new crosswalks on both Miller and Maple will remain closed for the time being until City crews have procured and installed the RRFBs at these locations.

Projects Currently in Design/Planning**School Safety Improvements**

A list of priority items identified by the A2 Safe Transit group has been shared with the Transportation Safety Committee (TSC). Staff is now going through the items identified on this list and preparing a plan to be implemented in FY18 & 19. This will be considered to be the Tier 3 School Safety improvements.

Annual Street Resurfacing Project:

Encompasses the majority of the City's street resurfacing activities, including several major and multiple local streets. While this project is still in the early planning phases, some of the streets on the tentative list for the 2018 program include Jackson Ave, State Street (Packard to Hoover), and various local residential streets.

Pauline Boulevard (Stadium to Seventh):

Watermain replacement, street resurfacing, bike facility improvements, and a review of potential crosswalk improvements throughout the corridor. This project is currently in the design phase. Construction is scheduled for the 2018 construction season. Staff met with the CIP Committee on September 6, 2017 and obtained feedback from the committee members. A public meeting was held October 12 to obtain further public feedback on the project, including the configuration for bike facilities and on-street parking. A summary of this meeting will be forthcoming.



Related question submitted via Google Form from Commissioner Bradley Parsons (9/13/2017):

Question: Hi all, I'm wondering what the timeline for the Pauline project entails. How many public opportunities for comment will this include, and on what timeline? When is the recommended plan due to City Council for approval? Is City Council approval before or after sending the plan to MDOT (I think that MDOT is involved with this one). Thanks in advance, Bradley.

Response (On Behalf of City Engineer, Nick Hutchinson):

The tentative schedule for the Pauline Blvd. project is as follows:

- *10/9/17 – Draft plans submitted to MDOT for review & comment*
- *10/12/17 – Public meeting (more details coming shortly)*
- *11/15/17 – Memorandum summarizing public input and final design transmitted to the Transportation Commission*
- *12/15/17 – Final plans to be submitted to MDOT*
- *Early February 2018 – contractor bids due to MDOT*
- *March 2018 – Resolution to approve City-State Agreement to Council*

As a reminder, City Council does not approve construction plans. Council will be asked to approve the City-State agreement for this project, which is the contract between the City and MDOT that defines responsibilities of each party and the financial details for the Federal funding.

Scio Church (Main to Seventh):

Road resurfacing project including filling the sidewalk gap on the south side of the road, potential addition of a sidewalk on the north side of the road adjacent to the Pioneer High School property, crosswalk improvements at the Scio Church/Seventh intersection, a midblock crossing at Chaucer, and narrowing of the existing pavement to provide a traffic calming effect, a reduced impervious surface, and additional space for stormwater management features. This project is currently in the design phase. Construction is scheduled for the 2018 construction season.

Fifth Avenue (Kingsley to Catherine):

Road reconstruction project including watermain replacement, stormwater management improvements, ADA ramp replacement, crosswalk improvements, and streetscape improvements. The project is currently being designed as a joint effort between the City and the DDA. Construction is scheduled for 2018.

Seventh Street Improvements:

This project includes the installation of buffered bike lanes and high visibility crosswalks on Seventh Street from Huron to Scio Church. This work is planned to be combined with a surface treatment project to improve the pavement condition on parts of Seventh Street, so that the new markings will be placed on a fresh surface. This combined project will utilize Highway Safety Improvement Program grant funding and Federal



Surface Transportation Program funds. Additional speed control treatments are currently being evaluated and considered for Seventh Street. More information will be provided when available. This project is currently in the design phase. Construction is anticipated in spring of 2018.

In addition to this, the City hired a consultant to perform additional analysis on the Seventh Street corridor and provide additional recommendations for slowing traffic. The resulting report, along with a summary that organizes the recommendations into Short Term, Mid Term, and Longer Term opportunities are posted on a2gov.org/seventh and linked below. Near term recommendations are anticipated to be done in 2017. Mid-term recommendations would be done along with the work referenced in the above paragraph. Longer term recommendations represent more significant infrastructure improvements, and thus will be considered as part of the City's capital planning process.

- [Seventh Street Speed Management Study](#)
- [Seventh Street Speed Management Study Appendix](#)
- [Summary of Recommendations](#)

Ellsworth/Research Park Drive Intersection:

Installation of a crosswalk and related treatments, such as expanding the sidewalk on the south side to service Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AAATA) riders. This project is currently being evaluated for the appropriate treatments. Construction is scheduled for the 2018 construction season.

Green & Federal Sidewalk Gaps:

Filling sidewalk gaps on the north side of Federal/Commerce Drive, and along the north/east side of Nixon Road near Burbank Drive. This project will utilize Federal aid. This project is currently in the design phase. Construction is scheduled for the 2018 construction season.

Dhu Varren & Nixon Sidewalk Gaps:

Filling sidewalk gaps on the north side of Dhu Varren Road from Omlesaad to the west property line of the Nixon Farms development, and on the west side of Nixon Road from Traver to the south property line of the Nixon Farms development. This project will utilize Federal aid. This project is currently in the planning phase. Construction is scheduled for the 2019 construction season.

Fuller/Maiden Lane/E. Medical Center Drive Area:

Potential reconstruction of the intersection, rehabilitation work on the East Medical Center Bridge, painting of the Fuller and Maiden Lane bridges, a connection of the Border to Border Trail under the Maiden Lane bridge, and a non-motorized connection under the East Medical Center Drive Bridge. This consists of a grouping of multiple potential projects that are still in the early planning and scoping stages. Construction dates are still to be determined, but are anticipated for the 2019-2021 timeframe.

**Allen Creek Berm Opening:**

The project team is approaching 60 percent design plans. A project coordination meeting was held by MDOT. The meeting included representatives from MDOT, SEMCOG, FEMA and members of the City project team. Early coordination will be helpful to assure success for this complex multifaceted project. Following DNR's preliminary review, updated and supplemental information was provided to support our DNR Trust Fund Grant application. DNR staff indicated the project selection process will be completed in early December. Overall, work is progressing nicely.

Washtenaw/Pittsfield Crosswalk:

Per MDOT: As of February 2017 the plan was to allocate FY 2018 funding for a pedestrian crosswalk with signal indication on the east leg of the Washtenaw/Pittsfield intersection. MDOT has been contacted for an update on this project. Stay tuned.

Other Updates and Information**Ann Arbor Station:**

The City of Ann Arbor has received FRA authorization to release the draft Environmental Assessment for Public Review. Stakeholder and general public meetings were held on October 11 and 12. The Commission will receive a presentation at its October Meeting.

For additional background please visit the [project website](#).

Signs, Lines and Markings:

Line and pavement marking refreshing continues into the fall. This work includes lane lines, turning arrows, crosswalk markings, and symbols (such as those for bike lanes).

Areas in need of immediate attention have been forwarded to Public Works many of which have been addressed in the past week or two. Staff continues to focus on the downtown area markings, working towards having them restored yet this year. .

Driver Behavior Study:

The City of Ann Arbor, under the guidance of Dr. Ron Van Houten and his team from Western Michigan University, continue with the Changing Driver Behavior study. The study will measure the impact of enhanced enforcement at crosswalks and communications feedback on stopping/yielding rates on major commuting routes within Ann Arbor. The study will replicate work Van Houten [performed in Gainesville, Florida](#).

A number of major commute routes are part of the study, with half receiving enhanced enforcement and stopping/yielding rate feedback, the other half acting as controls where data will be collected to find if compliance rates outside the targeted routes improve. The study uses road signage as well as local and social media to provide feedback to drivers on the yielding/stopping rates from the previous week compared to the record rate.



The Ann Arbor Police Department will issue tickets and educational material during a wave of enforcement in August. One additional wave of enforcement will occur this Fall.

S. State Street Transportation Corridor:

The South State Transportation Corridor Project includes transforming the South State Street Corridor, Eisenhower to Ellsworth, from an auto-centric street to a complete street with opportunities for all modes to travel both along and across the corridor. Following the City's S. State Street Vision project, this transportation planning project is the next step in transportation planning to complement the vision plan for this part of the city. Base mapping, traffic data collection, system modeling and conceptual planning have been completed. MDOT Has completed their review of the I-94 ramp interchange area and issued preliminary concurrence with the design. Project review public meeting has been scheduled for November 2 at the Courtyard by Marriott located in the project corridor. There are two sessions scheduled that day with a stakeholder meeting scheduled in the late afternoon and a public meeting starting at 6:00 PM. Commission members are welcome to attend either session.

MDOT Coordination:

The city has regular coordination with MDOT on all projects. MDOT allows for local installed improvements on their facilities, subject to their review. A preliminary staff to staff meeting was conducted including MDOT, WATS and City staff in preparation of MDOT's 2022 N. Main Street Rehabilitation project. City staff is working to identify a list of local stakeholders to engage in the project planning process. MDOT is looking to initiate their design effort next summer.

Traffic Calming Program Update:

Staff is working on an update to the existing Traffic Calming Program. Speed criteria, public support criteria, and other program details are being reviewed for updates. Updates to the Traffic Calming Program will require City Council approval. Transportation Commission feedback will be sought before changes are presented to Council.

Related materials:

- a2gov.org/trafficcalming
- [Traffic Calming Program Guidebook](#)
- [Response to Council Resolution 16-352: Design Criteria for Local Streets Speed Limits and Traffic Calming; November 6, 2016](#)

Traffic Calming Program Submittals:

The following Traffic Calming Program petitions have been received, reviewed for petition qualification criteria and will be scheduled for speed studies fall 2017:

- Bluett: Georgetown to Burbank (speed study data collection timeframe dependent on completion of adjacent construction work)
- Chandler: Amherst to Indianola
- Traver: John A Woods to Barton
- John A Woods: Pontiac Trail to Traver



The following Traffic Calming Program petition has been received and is currently under review to determine if minimum qualification criteria are satisfied to be scheduled for a speed study:

- Scio Church Service Drive: Seventh to Chaucer

School Safety Improvements

End of August Update

- Tier 1 work - signs & pavement markings. Work is now complete.
 - Reduced Speed School Zones have been installed at all the identified locations. **(DONE)**
 - Pavement marking refreshing is complete. **(DONE)**
 - Updating signage is now complete. **(DONE)**

- Tier 2 work - capital improvements adjacent to the AAPS-identified priority areas (High Schools & Middle Schools). The work outlined below has been completed as of 9/1/17:
 - Community High: Bumpouts on Division **(DONE)**; gateway treatments on Division and Fifth **(DONE)**
 - Huron High: RRFB installation at Gallup Park **(DONE)**; extension of sidewalk along south side of Fuller and relocation of Gallup Park crossing (project postponed to date uncertain – will be added to the CIP)
 - Pathways to Success: RRFB installation **(DONE)**; gateway treatment on Packard **(DONE)**
 - Pioneer High: RRFB on Seventh Street **(DONE)**
 - Forsythe/Wines: Gateway treatment @ Newport & Red Oak **(DONE)**
 - Clague: Gateway treatments on Nixon **(DONE)**
 - Scarlett/Mitchell: Gateway treatment on Lorraine (Summer 2017); ADA ramps **(DONE)**
 - Slauson: Crosswalk improvements on Eighth **(DONE)**; Crosswalk improvements on Washington will be done in 2018 as part of the scheduled watermain replacement project.

- Tiers 3 & 4 – work adjacent to and around elementary/neighborhood schools
 - A list of priority items identified by the A2 Safe Transit group has been shared with the Transportation Safety Committee (TSC). Staff is now going through the items identified on this list and preparing a plan to be implemented in FY18 & 19.

Other items:

- Tier 2 Work that is the responsibility of AAPS (these suggested improvements have been communicated to AAPS through the TSC):
 - Ann Arbor Open: Sidewalk gap on Red Oak
 - Clague: Raised crosswalk on Bluett (AAPS/Clague would need to apply to the Traffic Calming Program)
 - Tappan: Sidewalk repair on Stadium – AAPS has replaced the deteriorated asphalt sidewalk along Stadium with a new concrete sidewalk. **(DONE)**

- Scio Church: The City and AAPS are discussing the potential addition of Sidewalk along the north side of Scio Church Road adjacent to the Pioneer High School Property in conjunction with the planned 2018 resurfacing project. This would be an expense of AAPS, but could be constructed as part of the City's project. The City is awaiting confirmation from AAPS to proceed with including the sidewalk installation in the project.