



Transportation Project Updates September 2020

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2020 Construction Projects

Allen Creek Berm Opening:

This tunnel will provide safe, convenient and legal access to the Argo Cascades for the first time in over one hundred years. The project is currently expected to be completed in October. More information is available on the [project website](#).

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. A full list of streets is posted on the website at: a2gov.org/RoadConstruction. Construction is currently active in the Dicken neighborhood and on Granger Ave. Work on Geddes Ave, Boardwalk, the Oakbrook, and South Main asphalt paths have been completed. Work on the overall project is expected to continue into November.

Washtenaw Avenue Sidewalk Gap Project:

This project includes the construction of a Non-motorized Path along the south side of Washtenaw Avenue (north of the service drive) from S. Huron Parkway to Pittsfield Boulevard. The project is now substantially complete and is open to traffic. Work continues under a separate project at the Huron Parkway/Washtenaw intersection to upgrade the sidewalk ramps and add audible pedestrian signals.

Plymouth Road Capital Maintenance

This project consists of cold-milling and repaving of the asphalt surface from Murfin/Upland Roads to Nixon Road. Vehicular lanes will be reduced uniformly to 10 feet and a modified buffered bike lane will be introduced. This work is now complete.

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 to inform minor adjustments to the bikeway and on-street education, enforcement, and engagement. These efforts were temporarily delayed by pandemic response efforts but will resume this fall beginning with hardened centerline treatments. While new to the City, hardened centerlines have been used successfully across the country. Staff will pilot and monitor installation on William Street at Division and Thompson Streets with the goal of reducing left-hand turn speeds.



Education is on-going. Resources can be found at <http://www.peoplefriendlystreets.org/educational-resources/>

Projects Currently in Design/Planning

Fuller Court Sidewalk Gap Project:

This project includes the filling of sidewalk gaps on Fuller Ct. (south side) from Fuller Road to 2250 Fuller Ct. The University of Michigan has withdrawn financial support for the construction of the sidewalk adjacent to their property (at the corner of Fuller Road and Fuller Court), due to COVID-related budgetary issues. Therefore, this portion of the project has been removed. Final plans for the remaining sidewalk work on Fuller Court have been submitted to MDOT for approval and bids were opened on September 4, 2020. At this time, construction is scheduled for the spring of 2021.

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. This project utilizes federal funding, and it currently scheduled for construction in the spring/summer of 2021.

Other Updates and Information

Curbside Management Study:

The curb management study originally planned for this year has been postponed due to COVID-19 impacts to downtown, including significant changes to curbside use and impacts to public parking revenues. Staff are aiming to release a Request for Qualification (RFQ) in early 2021 with the understanding that the study may have to be undertaken with a phased approach.

“Healthy Streets” - Transportation opportunities for social distancing

Staff continues to advance the Healthy Streets initiative consistent with City Council Resolution R-20-158, [“Resolution to Promote Safe Social Distancing Outdoors in Ann Arbor.”](#)

Staff installed 26 neighborhood slow street treatments in July and August. No further neighborhood slow street treatments are being considered at this time due to timing and budget.

Physical distancing measures were installed on Catherine/Miller, State/North University, Division, and portions of Packard on Monday, August 31, with temporary changes to the Broadway Bridge and locations outside of downtown shortly following. Additional installations on S. Main Street, and E. Packard went into effect the week of September 7. In the first several weeks of the installations, staff are monitoring for needed changes and requesting contractor adjustments. The City’s “Healthy Streets” website (a2gov.org/HealthyStreets) and the DDA’s People Friendly Streets website



(<https://www.peoplefriendlystreets.org/>) will be kept up to date to reflect the latest updates on the Healthy Streets Initiative. Lastly, a survey was launched asking for comments and impressions of these Healthy Streets deployments - community feedback can be shared here: bit.ly/hspilotsurvey.

Office of Sustainability and Innovations Update:

The 2019 community-wide greenhouse gas inventory has been completed and submitted to the Carbon Disclosure Project. Last year, Ann Arbor was one of 105 cities globally to receive an A score (<https://www.cdp.net/en/cities/cities-scores>), leading the transition to a climate-safe future. Compared to 2000 emission levels, greenhouse gas emissions have reduced by about 20%, but we have a lot of work to reach our 2030 goal to eliminate the 2.1 million metric tons of carbon-dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases associated with the community's activities. That's around 43 metric tons per household. Learn more about estimating your own household's carbon footprint with the CoolClimate Calculator, <https://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/calculator>, and look for more details on the inventory being shared soon.

Streetlight Implementation:

32 new streetlights were installed so far in 2020. 964 streetlight outages have been addressed by DTE in 2020.

Traffic Calming Program Submittals:

Updates on recent Traffic Calming Program petitions are provided below:

- The polling for Fernwood is complete and the residents have voiced support for the proposed traffic calming measures. The Transportation Commission recommended City Council approval for Fernwood Traffic Calming installation at the August 19, 2020 meeting. This will be brought before City Council for action on September 21.
- The community engagement process for Glenwood (Override to Washtenaw) is in progress. Meeting 2 will be held on September 17; this will include discussion of a preliminary plan of traffic calming measures for this project area.