



## Transportation Project Updates December 2021

[Subscribe](#) to receive monthly Transportation Project Updates.

Visit [a2gov.org/TransportationCommission](https://a2gov.org/TransportationCommission) for additional background.

Contact the Transportation Commission at [TransportationCommission@a2gov.org](mailto:TransportationCommission@a2gov.org)

### **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 on this project has been substantially completed, with the exception of the sidewalk construction at Yost & Eli (see below).

#### **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. Work on this project has been completed and the road is now open to traffic.

#### **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) – Substantially completed, however the new crosswalk will remain closed until the streetlights can be installed.
- Boardwalk Drive (east side from Eisenhower to Oakbrook) (postponed to spring 2022)
- Jackson Avenue (south side from Wagner to Park Lake) – Completed
- 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) – Completed
- Crestland Drive (near Pattengill Elementary) – completed as part of the Annual Resurfacing Program
- Yost and Eli (at frontage of 2609 Yost Avenue) ( postponed to spring 2022)
- Manchester (near Washtenaw) - Completed.

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

This project will replace watermain and resurface the streets on Crest between Liberty and Buena Vista, and on Liberty from Crest to South Seventh Street. Construction has been completed and the roads are open to traffic.

**Division Street**

This Downtown Development Authority (DDA)-led project consists of a two-way protected bike lane on the east side of Division between Packard and Catherine. Construction began mid-October and is anticipated to be complete late December.

**William Street Bikeway Enhancements.**

The William Street Bikeway was constructed using a flexible and cost/material-lite approach, with the understanding that we would learn from the City's first separated bike lanes. Since installation, staff have observed steady use and compared maintenance, such as street sweeping and snow plowing, to the curb-protected First Street Bikeway. The DDA is now able to make permanent changes to William Street focused on replacing delineators from Thompson to First Street with separation. Moveable planters east of Thompson will be replaced with a removable curb to maintain 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 began the week of November 4, 2021. Installing a curb will ease daily maintenance for street sweeping and snow plowing and save time and money in the long run. Delineator posts are being salvaged for replacement and reuse in other areas.

**Projects Currently in Design/Planning****Seventh Street & Greenview**

This project consists of watermain replacement and resurfacing on South Seventh Street between Scio Church and Greenview, and on Greenview between Seventh and Scio Church. The Seventh Street portion of the project includes stormwater improvements in the scope, which could consist of such things as road narrowing, rain gardens, sand filters, and/or underground stormwater storage. Design work on the project is underway, and construction is scheduled for 2022. A public engagement meeting is being planned for early January. More information will be provided to the Transportation Commission when available.

**Broadway Street (Plymouth to Plymouth)**

This project includes the replacement of an aging watermain as well as resurfacing of the street. The project will also replace the existing speed humps and fill sidewalk gaps on the north side of the road at the east end of the project. Design work on the project is underway and a public engagement meeting is being planned for January. Construction is scheduled for 2022.

**Geddes Ave Resurfacing (Observatory to Highland)**

This project includes resurfacing, stormwater improvements, and crosswalk upgrades. Design work is underway, and construction is anticipated in 2022.



### **Other Sidewalk Gap Projects**

A tentative list of sidewalk gap infill projects for 2022, in addition to the ones spilling over from 2021 listed above, includes:

- Broadway (north/west side from Broadview Ln to Plymouth)
- Ellsworth Road (north side, State to Stone School)
- Hiscock Street (east side, near Summit)
- Hutchins & Prescott (near Stadium)
- Nixon/Traver (Westbury to Logan Elementary)
- 2231 Platt
- Russell Street (with first time paving project)
- 1121 Saunders Crescent
- 2878 South Main Street
- Tuebingen Parkway (Lancashire to Traver)
- Winchell, Brockman, Frieze loop

### **Other Updates and Information**

#### **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. The following project is currently being coordinated with MDOT:

- Huron/Jackson Crossings – After field visits to determine feasibility, City staff has identified 4 locations for possible crosswalks along Huron and Jackson as follows:
  - Huron @ Crest
  - Jackson @ Virginia
  - Jackson @ Worden
  - Jackson @ Vets ParkAdditionally, MDOT has agreed to look at the intersection configuration of the Huron/Jackson/Dexter split with possible inclusion of a new crosswalk at the eastern leg of the intersection.
- Huron/Seventh Intersection – MDOT has planned for a traffic signal modernization project at this intersection. Mitigation measures including the prohibition of southbound left turn from Seventh to Huron, and the addition of permissive-protected left turn phasing for northbound Seventh will be installed by this modernization project. The next steps for the project will be signal design by an MDOT consultant, contractor bid letting and construction. Design is anticipated to start this month and is expected to be complete in May 2022. Bid letting is expected to be in August 2022 followed by construction.
- I-94 Operational Study – City staff recently learned that MDOT released the "[I-94 Operations Study: Ann Arbor-Saline Road to US-23](#)." City staff is still reviewing the report and will follow-up with MDOT on next steps..

**HSIP Award for Countdown Pedestrian Signals**

The City was awarded federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) from MDOT in the amount of \$19,963.80 (total project cost = \$22,182) for federal fiscal year 2023. The project will install countdown pedestrian signals at certain locations at State/Hill, Packard/Hill, Plymouth/Traverwood, Plymouth/Broadway, Plymouth/Maiden/Moore, Broadway/Swift.

**Streetlight Implementation**

19 crosswalks have been upgraded with positive contrast lighting (DTE) to date in 2021. 1291 streetlight outages were addressed by DTE to date in 2021. Additionally, work continues 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) – Final polling was sent to residents and are due back to the City by November 30, 2021. Due to postal delays, extra time is being afforded to receive responses. If supported by the neighborhood, staff anticipates bringing this item to the Transportation Commission in January 2022.
- Northside Ave (Barton to Pontiac Trail) – Final polling will go out shortly and will be due in early January. If supported by the neighborhood, staff anticipates bringing this item to the Transportation Commission in January 2022.

**Transportation Plan Update**

City Council awarded the contract to Sam Schwartz, LLC to develop a Vision Zero Transportation Plan Implementation Strategy, Major Streets Traffic Calming program, and pedestrian safety communications at its October 18, 2021, meeting. The contract is fully signed and the project kick-off meeting was held on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Work is now underway in defining short- and long-term improvements including development of Quick Build improvements for installation in 2022. The project team and staff are developing the Community Engagement Plan that will include the overall project engagement program and framework for the Vision Zero Implementation Committee. The Moving Together Towards Vision Zero Plan document and other related materials can be found on the [project website](#).

**Bicycle Friendly Community Designation**

The League of American Bicyclists has a “Bicycle [Friendly Community](#)” program which “provides advocates and change makers with a roadmap and hands-on assistance to build places more welcoming to people who bike.” This program awards designations to communities based on the extent of support for cycling in that community. On December 8, 2021, the League announced that the City of Ann Arbor was upgraded



from a silver community to a gold community. There are 497 recognized bicycle friendly communities, but only 35 gold level designations.

**Winter Sidewalk Maintenance**

Included in the December 2021 Transportation Commission packet is a memo shared with City Council about the different options for winter sidewalk maintenance. The memo reflects recommendations made by the Transportation Commission at their September meeting.

**American Rescue Plan Funding Recommendation**

The City is the recipient of \$24.2 million in federal COVID relief funds through the program known as “American Rescue Plan” (ARP). City Council directed staff to propose recommendations on how to prioritize the use of these funds. Included in the December 2021 Transportation Commission packet is a memo shared with City Council about the proposed use of ARP funds – note: the total dollar amount of recommended projects exceeds the amount of funding available by \$16.9M. Among the proposals are two transportation projects: Miller-Catherine Bike Facility (\$4M); and Vision Zero Plan Implementation (\$9.5M). City staff is currently working on an engagement strategy which is expected to launch in early 2022 to vet these ideas and get input from the community.