



Virg Bernero, Mayor

The Construction Observer

Building
Lansing's
Future

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A Good Thing

Businesses for Clean Water (BCW) was organized by the Lansing Principal Shopping District (PSD) as a way for downtown businesses to express their support for the CSO Control Program.

“The construction has, of course, come with its challenges. But when you look at the big picture, the benefits of the project – cleaner water and reduced pollution – far outweigh the temporary inconvenience,” said PSD Executive Director, Mindy Biladeau.

The group has hosted two Construction Worker Perks events to express appreciation. More events will be organized during upcoming construction seasons to spread the message about how the CSO Control Program is working toward a cleaner, greener Lansing.

BCW also hopes to educate patrons about the program’s value. “It’s easy to get caught up in the inconvenience, so we want to remind them of how important the project is for Lansing, and that each of us will benefit from a cleaner environment when the work is completed,” Biladeau said.



Participating businesses can be recognized by the BCW logo in their window and include: *Backyard BBQ; Barb's Hallmark; Boarshead Theater; Brannigan Brothers; Clem's Collectibles; Coldwell Banker Hubbell BriarWood-Downtown; Cottage Inn Pizza; Decker's Coffee Company; Dimitri's Restaurant; Dollar Deal; Downtown Party Store; Downtown Smoking Club; Downtown Subs and Salads; The Exchange; Fifth Third Bank-Stadium District; Grand Art Supply; Hankins Gallery & Framing; Jalapenos; Kewpee's; Lansing Board of Water & Light; The Lansing Center; Lansing Economic Development Corp.; Lansing Entertainment Public Facilities Authority (LEPFA); Lansing PSD; Michigania; The New Daily Bagel; New York Burrito; Perelli's Barber Shop; Radisson; Restaurant Mediterran; Riverwalk Theatre; Soup to Nutz Bistro; Studio 109; Sultan's Express; Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Westside Beauty & Barber Shop; YMCA-Downtown*

Final Issue of the Season

Construction is substantially complete for 2008. You may occasionally see very minor tasks underway during the winter months.

Four of this year’s construction projects will carry over to 2009: 034A, 045, 018SW and 013NE. The CSO work on Grand Avenue/Walnut Street is nearly complete, with additional streetscape enhancements on Grand requiring another two years of work.

The City greatly appreciates your patience throughout this construction season and the entire 17 years the CSO Program has been underway. Here is an update on the progress we’ve made on the CSO Program to date:

- Combined sewer area separated or redirected from overflow since 1991: 4,240 acres
- Sewer separation complete: 59%
- Combined sewer area under construction in 2008: 441 acres
- Combined sewer area beginning construction in 2009: 249 acres
- Combined sewer area currently under design: 246 acres
- New sanitary sewer constructed with CSO Program: 56 miles
- New water main constructed with CSO Program: 33 miles
- New roadway constructed with CSO Program: 61 miles

2008 CSO Construction Project Wrap-Up All Streets are Open to Traffic

Downtown – Grand Avenue

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved on the majority of Grand between St. Joseph and Shiawassee, and on Walnut between Ottawa and Shiawassee. CSO work is complete in this area.
- Streetscape enhancements will take place on Grand in 2009-2010. Grand will remain open to vehicle and pedestrian traffic during construction.

018 SW – Larch from Saginaw to Grand River Avenue

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in a portion of the area generally bounded by Grand River Avenue to the north, Pennsylvania to the east, Saginaw to the south, and Center to the west.
- Work on this project will continue and conclude next year. Areas to be constructed in 2009 include Cedar (Grand River Avenue to Monroe), Monroe, Ash, Maple, Adams, Center (Adams to Maple) and May (Larch to Prudden).

020 – Shiawassee and Pennsylvania Area

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in the area generally bounded by Larch on the west, Michigan on the south, Saginaw Highway on the north, and Pennsylvania on the east.
- This project began in 2007 and is now complete.

018 SE – Oakland and Pennsylvania Area

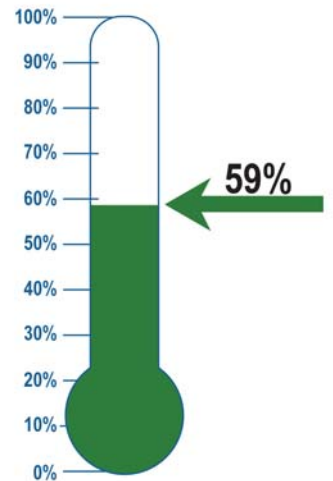
- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in the area generally bounded by the CSX Railroad to the west, Grand River Avenue to the north, Clark to the east, and Saginaw to the south.
- This project began in 2007 and is now complete.

013 NW – Neighborhood SW of Sheridan and Turner

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in

Sewer Separation Complete

4,240 acres of 7,167 acres





TOP FIVE Ways to Appreciate the Winter Months

- 1. No Construction Traffic!**
Although the snow may slow you down, take time to enjoy the absence of cones and barrels on the road.
- 2. Sparkling Rivers.** We still have more to do to protect and improve the quality of the Grand and Red Cedar Rivers, but the snow and ice bring a special sparkle to our rivers this time of year. Take a hike and see for yourself.
- 3. Add Wings.** If you don't already feed wild birds, start up in winter and continue through spring. You will be rewarded with flashes of color and early signs of spring (singing, courting, return of migrating species.)
- 4. Volunteer.** In the summer, we spend time outdoors after hours. In the winter, it's dark by quitting time, prompting us to hibernate at home. To get out of that early evening rut, try volunteering for a cause important to you.
- 5. Think Spring.** When you are just about fed up with cold and slush, start planning to add a rain garden or rain barrel to your yard. Another benefit of rain gardens and native plants? Winter interest from seed heads and grasses.



Going Forward

December 5, 2008: Green Holiday Event at City Hall from 11 am - 2 pm. Bring your old holiday lights to be recycled and receive a discount on environmentally friendly LED lights. Local vendors, baked goods, crafts, and handmade gifts. Donate to Toys for Tots and be entered in a raffle. Sponsored by Mayor Bernero's Go Green! Initiative and Lansing's Waste Reduction Services.

the area generally bounded by Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to the west, Howe to the south, Sheridan to the north, and Turner to the east.

- This project began in 2007 and is now complete.

045 – Larch from Michigan to Saginaw

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in a portion of the area generally bounded by Cedar on the west, Michigan on the south, Saginaw on the north, and Pennsylvania on the east.
- Work on this project will continue and conclude next year. Areas to be constructed in 2009 include Saginaw (Prudden to Cleveland), Pennsylvania (Saginaw to Linden Grove), Park Terrace and Orchard.

034A – Neighborhood SE of MLK Jr and Mt Hope

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in a portion of the area generally bounded by Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to the west, Lenore to the north, Osband to the east, and Rundle to the south.
- Work on this project will continue and conclude next year. Areas to be constructed in 2009 include Cooper, Poxson, Woodbine, Kelsey, Poplar and Stirling (Gordon to Rundle).

013 NE – Chilson and N East

- New sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water main were installed and the roadway repaved in a portion of the area generally bounded by Turner to the west, Chilson to the south, Sheridan to the north, and Eighth to the east.
- Work on this project will continue and conclude next year. Areas to be constructed in 2009 include Creston, Howe, Paulson, Community, Orchard Glen, Garland, Seventh, Hunt, Walker and Cedar.

Survey Results Will Improve Communication

The Public Service Department is always looking for ways to make the CSO construction experience as painless as possible and to keep residents informed. As the 2008 construction season concluded, a survey was given to property owners in recently completed areas. These survey results give us insight regarding how effective CSO communication was with property owners, how we can best reach them, and possible improvements to the construction process.

Sixty-seven percent of property owners said the experience was better than they expected.

The findings were encouraging. Sixty-seven percent of property owners said the experience was better than they expected, and 28 percent were neutral about it, showing that communication about what the construction would entail was accurate and effective.

The survey also revealed that property owners got the most information from direct mailings, newspapers, the CSO Hotline, and the CSO web site; while e-mails, flyers, and the CSO Inflow Helpline were used less frequently.

Property owners also expressed satisfaction with most aspects of the project: 28 percent said they were most satisfied with access to local roads; 22 percent were most satisfied with the end result of environmental protection, and 19 percent said the project professionals topped their list. The majority of residents also said they were satisfied with their overall CSO experience.

Asked what would have made the process easier for them, 79 percent of residents had no suggestions or made positive comments, and 24 percent made various suggestions.

"It was a project that had to be done. When we had problems everyone did respond accordingly and was helpful," said one satisfied resident. Another survey read, "Everything went smooth and fast. Good job!"

Looking forward to the 2009 construction season, the information gleaned from the survey will be used to improve communication content and availability. Thanks to all who participated in the survey; your comments have been heard!

Season's Greetings to All!

*The Construction Observer
will return in 2009*

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to Alec Malvetis, Assistant City Engineer/CSO Project Manager at amalveti@lansingmi.gov.

