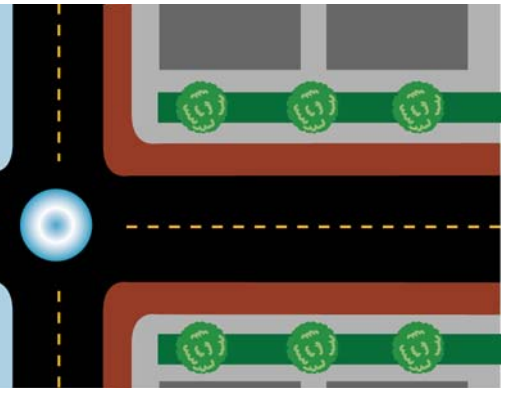




Virg Bernero, Mayor

The Construction Observer

Building Lansing's Future



www.LansingCSO.com

May 9, 2008 - Vol. 2, Update No. 4

Construction U.

Have you heard that much of the downtown construction is aimed at helping the environment? During the *Be A Tourist In Your Own Town (BATYOT)* event, the City of Lansing is holding a Construction University - Go Green! Go Lansing! attraction that will help explain this effort to kids and parents alike.

On Saturday, May 31, from 10 am - 5 pm, the Lansing area can visit over 35 attractions with access to everything via CATA. Construction University - Go Green! Go Lansing! will give "students" some hands-on learning about the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) program and how it's helping our rivers. Highlights include:

- Games, prizes, and crafts
- Free photo with one of the HUGE construction vehicles and our new mascot
- Hard hats for the kids
- Fun with composting
- The City's new electric car



Adults can also take a self-guided informational tour of the CSO program.

Get your *BATYOT* passports now from the CATA station, Lansing Art Gallery, the Convention & Visitors Bureau, and others. The cost is only \$1 and children three and under are free. Visit www.lansing.org/batyot for more information.

Can't Swim Upstream or Downstream? Relief is in Sight!

Unless you can walk, bike, fly or swim, you are most likely having trouble heading north and south in downtown Lansing. The good news is that relief is in sight.

Without a doubt, there are extensive north and southbound closures right now. In addition to the ongoing CSO work, there are many road resurfacing and pothole repair projects underway. Luckily, we expect that these non-CSO road closures will re-open sooner than later. First to provide relief should be the two work zones on Pennsylvania from Lincoln to Mt. Hope and Cavanaugh to Health Care Court.

There are several reasons why so many roads are under construction at once:

- The freeze and thaw cycle creates potholes that must be repaired.
- For CSO work, the project areas follow a plan that must adhere to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requirements. Last minute modifications to accommodate unforeseen road repairs cannot be made.
- The City strives to prevent construction on the same street in two consecutive years (per guidance from the Mayor's 2020 Task Force). This means multiple projects take place in the same area in the same season.

For now, your best north-south alternates are Turner Street (which was paved last year), Waverly or 127. CATA is always up-to-date on the best routes, so public transportation is another great option. Remember, delays today mean cleaner rivers tomorrow. The City and the construction crews appreciate your patience and cautious driving in work zones!

CSO Traffic Updates and Construction Progress

Downtown – Grand Avenue

- Grand is closed to traffic; local businesses are open and detours are posted
- South Grand ramp will close on May 12
- 24-inch storm sewer installed up to Hillsdale
- Water services completed from St. Joseph to Hillsdale
- 36-inch chilled water line repaired

018 SW – Larch from Saginaw to Grand River Avenue

- Larch is closed to through traffic between Saginaw and Grand River; local businesses are open and detours are posted
- 15-inch sanitary sewer installation continuing from Grand River to Oakland

020 – Shiawassee and Pennsylvania Area

- Jerome is closed to through traffic between Pennsylvania and Hosmer; local businesses are open and accessible



42-inch bore at Grand and Michigan Avenue



TOP FIVE Ways Lansing is Cleaner and Greener

1. The Michigan Avenue Rain Gardens are so unique that they will be discussed at an international conference next week in Hawaii!
2. Recycling rates in City facilities have tripled over the past three years. This has diverted nearly 28.7 tons of material from the waste stream in 2007 alone!
3. The City has converted its diesel fleet to biofuels, resulting in a 50-60% reduction in CO2 emissions.
4. The City of Lansing's Waste Reduction Services department operates an extensive composting program. It's been so successful that the City is now providing neighborhoods with free compost for community gardening and beautification projects.
5. Over 1,500 Lansing residents have already taken the Go Green Personal Pledge, helping to reduce CO2 emissions by almost 2,000 tons per year. Visit www.gogreengolansing.com to take the pledge.

Going Forward:

- *May 22:* By popular demand, more kids' artwork will be displayed on Grand Ave.
- *May 31:* Construction University for kids of all ages (Part of "Be a Tourist in Your Own Town" activities)
- *Spring 2008:* Adopt-a-Garden
- *June 12:* The start of the "Blues on the Square" concert series to be held (almost) every Thursday throughout summer. More details to come.

- Pre-televising work for underground pipe lining completed
- Water services, catch basins, and storm leads completed on Vine
- Sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water services completed on Jerome and Hosmer

018 SE – Oakland and Pennsylvania Area

- Pennsylvania reduced to two lanes northbound ONLY from Saginaw to Grand River Avenue; side streets are open to traffic
- Water main installed on Porter and Camp
- Clark storm sewer and water main completed; concrete and road reconstruction has begun
- Sanitary installed south of Persons on Pennsylvania
- 16-inch water main installed on Pennsylvania between Oakland and Porter
- 8-inch water main installed on Cady

013 NW – Neighborhood SW of Sheridan and Turner

- Local streets are open to traffic
- Final pave Turner after June 15
- Completed raw water main testing and connected water on Felt
- Began sanitary sewer installation at intersection of Felt and Carrier

045 – Larch from Michigan to Saginaw

- Larch is closed to through traffic between Shiawassee and Saginaw; local businesses are open and detours are posted
- Sanitary sewer installation complete from Saginaw to Truck Ct.
- Began storm sewer at Saginaw, continuing to the south

034A – Neighborhood SE of MLK Jr. and Mt. Hope

- Local streets are open to traffic
- Sanitary services completed on Rundle from Lenore to Gordon
- Water services complete on Rundle from MLK Jr. to Gordon
- Storm manhole installed at MLK Jr. and Rundle
- Installation of sanitary sewer has begun on Osband



*Osband and Cooper
Sewer Installation*

013 NE – Chilson and N. East Street

- Traffic control is in place; one lane of traffic is open in each direction on N East; all traffic to be switched to the east side of N East on May 20
- 16-inch water main completed on N East; currently testing the main
- 8-inch water main partially installed on Chilson
- 16-inch raw water installation to begin on Chilson next week

Other City Construction Project Updates

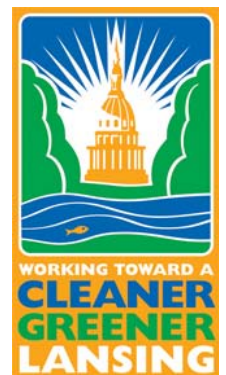
The Michigan Avenue Streetscape Project

- Trees have been planted in front of the Stadium District, in front of and across the street from the Lansing Center, and between Capitol and Grand. Sprinkling systems are being installed in front of the Lansing Center and between Capitol and Grand.
- Starting the week of May 12, shrubs will be placed in the planting beds between Capitol and Grand. Starting the week of May 19, trees will be planted in the rain gardens between Larch and Pennsylvania. The rain gardens will be planted the last week in May.

Washington Avenue Rain Garden Update

- Concrete work is nearing completion. The rain garden soil will be placed shortly. Trees and rain garden plantings should be installed by late May/early June.

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



This is a significant environmental and infrastructure legacy we are giving future generations, and we should be proud!