



Virg Bernero, Mayor

The CSO Observer

Lansing
on the
Move

www.lansingcso.com

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Welcome to *The CSO Observer*!

This new electronic newsletter will provide updates and information about the City of Lansing's Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program throughout the construction season.

Every two weeks, from now until November, *The CSO Observer* will provide highlights, hiccups, and schedule changes in a handy, bite-sized package. And we'll include direct Web links to additional information for those of you who want to know more.

The CSO team stands ready to address any question or concern. We encourage you to forward *The CSO Observer* to anyone else with an interest in this important project, and we look forward to working with you to keep Lansing -- and the CSO program -- on the move!

Chad Gamble, P.E.
Public Service Director



Panicum Virgatum a native grass to be planted in Lansing's rain gardens

Let It Rain

When construction is complete, the new engineered rain gardens along Michigan Avenue will catch and filter storm water runoff from roofs, driveways and parking lots. Engineered rain gardens trap pollutants in mulch and plantings instead of allowing them to flow into waterways.

The City is adding rain gardens on Michigan between Larch and Pennsylvania as part of its Streetscape project, which also includes the addition of a traffic circle at the intersection of Michigan and Washington avenues.

For more information on rain gardens, please visit:
www.raingardens.org/Index.php
www.rainkc.com/home/index.asp



Washington Square

Coming Through!

Soon, tires will touch a stretch of Washington Avenue that's been closed to cars for more than 35 years. The City is reopening the last two blocks of Washington Square (now the pedestrian mall between Ottawa and Shiawassee) to traffic. A new roadway, sidewalks, benches, and streetlights are all part of the project (starting in May and finishing in November).

One request: No window shopping from your car!

Patience is a Virtue

A stretch of Oakland Avenue (M-43) will close this summer, creating some delays and congestion. Sewer work will close the westbound lane between Clark and Ballard streets from late May or early June until November. A detour will divert westbound traffic onto Grand River Avenue (where it splits from Oakland), then south on Cedar to rejoin Oakland. Allow extra travel time because four lanes of traffic on Oakland will merge into just one on Grand River. This work will maintain access to local businesses.

Kalamazoo Closed for Construction = Beautification

Sewer work will close a chunk of Kalamazoo Street — from Cedar to Capitol — starting in April. Eastbound traffic will be detoured south on Capitol, east on Main Street, and back north on Larch. Westbound travelers will shift north on Larch, west on Shiawassee, and south on Capitol.

Michigan Avenue is not a detour option because of streetscape work. The City will adjust detour routes to accommodate traffic for the Common Ground festival. The good news: contractors will complete the project during the 2007 construction season!

No Need to Go “Nuts”

Summer means baseball — and orange barrels. Streetscape construction on Michigan Avenue will start April 16 in front of Oldsmobile Park, home to the Lansing Lugnuts. Work on the north side of Michigan will end in early August and shift to the south side, which is slated for completion in September. Fortunately, the project shouldn't slow down Lugnuts fans. One lane of traffic will remain open on the side where construction is ongoing and two lanes will stay open in the opposite direction.

www.lansinglugnuts.com



This is a significant legacy in infrastructure improvements and water quality protection we are giving future generations, and we should be proud!