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In This Update:

Rain Garden Groundbreaking
Earth Day in Lansing
Lansing is Open for Business
Coffee Meetings

Project Updates

Downtown: Kazoo & Seymour
Michigan Ave. Streetscape
023 Project
020 Project
013 Northwest: Turner
018 Southeast: Porter & Case
CSO-013 West: Gier

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Rain Garden Groundbreaking

Mayor Virg Bernero and Public Service Director Chad Gamble held a groundbreaking ceremony in the 600 block of Michigan Avenue on April 23 to raise awareness of Rain Garden construction. In addition to visual appeal, the Michigan Avenue Rain Garden and Streetscape will improve the area's water environment by reducing the volume of storm water runoff discharged to the Grand River. They also will improve the quality of the storm water runoff by filtering out pollutants before runoff reaches the river. The project is funded by grants from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Lansing is Open for Business!

All businesses in the downtown and Michigan Avenue construction zones are open, and access is being maintained at all times. Please be sure to visit these merchants and restaurants often during this construction season!

Earth Day in Lansing!

Lansing's Public Service Department participated in an Earth Day Information Celebration at Lansing City Hall on April 20. CSO Project Engineer Dan Danke (pictured at left), City Engineer Dean Johnson, and Tetra Tech's Rain Garden expert Anne Thomas staffed the booth and shared information about the sewer separation's positive impact on Grand River water quality. They also explained how bioretention facilities clean storm water, and demonstrated how to construct a backyard rain garden.





Construction Coffee Meetings

The Public Service Department has started up the Downtown Construction Coffee Meetings. The first meeting was held on April 25 at 8:00 am at the Nuthouse Sports Grill (located on the southwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Cedar Street).

These meetings give the business community an opportunity to talk with the City's construction engineers about any issues you may be having with the downtown construction projects.

The construction coffee meetings will be held weekly for the first month. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dan Danke at 483.4461 or ddanke@ci.lansing.mi.us.

Project Updates

Downtown: Kalamazoo and Seymour Streets

Kalamazoo remains closed to through traffic from Capitol Avenue east to the bridge over the Grand River (just west of S. Cedar Street). Kalamazoo will be closed until late October.

The Washington Avenue - Kalamazoo Street intersection is also closed for installation of the sanitary sewer boring pit. That project is expected to begin during the week of April 30, and will allow installation of sanitary sewer mains in Kalamazoo Street.

The contract has been awarded to install the Lansing Board of Water and Light's new steam service duct lines in Kalamazoo Street. Construction is expected to begin in mid-May.

Work on Seymour Street is now scheduled to begin in June. When work starts, Seymour Street will be fully closed to through traffic from Shiawassee to Ottawa Street.



Excavation at Kalamazoo and Washington

CATA will vacate its Kalamazoo Street Transportation Center on Monday, May 14. These CATA operations will be relocated approximately one block south with bus staging and customer pick-up/drop-off to occur in the 100 block of E. Lenawee. An update on when CATA operations will be restored at the Kalamazoo Street Transportation Center will be provided in this newsletter as soon as this information becomes available. Access to all downtown businesses is being maintained. Be sure to visit the businesses in this construction corridor!



The Michigan Avenue “Streetscape” Project

Michigan Avenue streetscape work is underway on the north side between Cedar Street and the CSX Railroad tracks. This includes the 600 block of East Michigan where rain gardens are being constructed. One lane of westbound traffic and two lanes of eastbound traffic are being maintained. This construction will eventually extend to Pennsylvania Avenue. Expect delays through the summer.

Construction has started on Michigan Avenue between Grand and Capitol avenues. This section of Michigan is being reconstructed with new streetscaping as well. During the first phase — scheduled for completion by the end of June — the intersection at Washington will remain open to north-south traffic. Phase two — which includes construction of the traffic circle at the Michigan/Washington intersection — will follow immediately. Phase two should be complete by the end of August.

Access to all downtown businesses is being maintained. Be sure to visit the businesses in this construction corridor!



Corner of Hosmer and Michigan Avenue

023 Project

Construction continues on Hill, Hosmer, and Eighth streets, all south of Michigan Avenue. Access for local residents is being maintained.

ATT has completed their work in Dumpster Alley. Road construction should start on April 30 and be completed in four weeks.

With work on the east side of Pennsylvania Avenue between Michigan and Eureka Street complete, construction has switched to the west side. North-south traffic has been shifted to the east side. Construction on this section should be complete by the end of May.

020 Project

In mid-May, construction will start on the west side of Pennsylvania between Michigan and Shiawassee. Two-way traffic will be maintained on the east side of Pennsylvania. Construction will shift to the east side in mid-summer, with construction complete by Labor Day.

Construction on Shiawassee between Pennsylvania and Larch continues. Construction is on the south side of Shiawassee with westbound traffic being maintained in the north lane. Eastbound traffic is being detoured to Saginaw. Increased police enforcement has been requested in response to illegal eastbound traffic on Shiawassee. Construction on Shiawassee should be complete this fall.



013 Northwest Project: Turner Street

Work begins the week of April 30 with the installation of traffic control and pavement removal on Turner Street. Installation of sanitary sewer and storm sewer in Turner Street will follow in May. Turner Street will be closed from Jackson Street north to Fairfield Avenue until late July. Construction on Carrier Street and Howe Avenue (west of Turner Street) will begin around Memorial Day.

018 Southeast Project: Porter and Case Streets

Work began the week of April 23 with pavement removal on Porter and Case streets. Work on water mains and services in Porter and Case streets is on-going. Pavement removal on Ballard Street and sanitary sewer main installation will begin in early May, first in Case Street and then in Porter Street, west of Ballard Street. As part of this project, CSO construction will close sections of Oakland Avenue between Grand River Avenue and Ballard Street starting late May/early June. An Oakland Avenue closure schedule will be provided as soon as it is available.

CSO-013 West Project: Gier Neighborhood

The second year of construction resumed in April 2007. The contractor is finishing water main and catch basin installation in Filley Street east of Taylor to Turner. Sewer work also started in Jackson Street, and a temporary gravel road was installed to connect Jackson to Harris Street using a short route through Gier Park. Work is progressing smoothly and according to schedule.



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