



Virg Bernero, Mayor

The Construction Observer

an award-winning publication

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The Way*

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Downtown Social Hour - Not Just for Summer!

Beat the daily grind the first Wednesday of every month during Lansing's Downtown Social Hour. Each month from 5-7 pm, join your friends at local bars and restaurants for cheap drinks and great conversation.

9/2: The Corner Bar and Grille

10/7: Capitol City Grille

11/4: Troppo

12/2: Rum Runners

Project ReDirectory: Repurposing Old Phone Books into Home Insulation and Hydro-Seed Mulch

The following locations will accept your used phone books until August 31:

Lansing Recycling Transfer Station, 530 E South, corner of South and Beech

Foster Community Center Parking Lot, 200 N Foster in the Nu-Wool Insulation Trailer on the southeast corner of the lot

Gier Community Center Parking Lot, 2400 Hall in the Nu-Wool Insulation Trailer on the west side of the lot

Nu-Wool Company, 2472 Port Sheldon, Jenison

Get Your Swish Bucks!

Swish will be at a ribbon cutting in Old Town on Wednesday, August 19 for a new children's playground at Burchard Park. He'll be there from 10:30-11:30 am.



Swish Bucks will also be handed out at Preuss Pets on Saturday, August 22 from noon – 1 pm and at the Lansing City Market on Saturday, August 29 from noon-1pm.

Swish Bucks are good at a variety of downtown businesses and restaurants, so be sure to get yours!

Stormwater Carries Pollutants to the River

If you've ever seen footage of flash flood conditions, you may recall trash and debris floating in the stormwater (not to mention people and cars.) Water is a powerful force, even when it is just a light rain. You may not be able to see the contaminants, but even a small storm can wash harmful chemicals and particles straight to the river.

The Top 5 list in the last issue began to explain how easy it is to prevent residential stormwater pollution. The most common pollutants picked up by stormwater are soil and sediment, pet waste, automotive fluids, car wash water and fertilizer. In the next five issues of the Construction Observer, we will discuss each pollutant in more detail, explaining why it is so harmful to the river and what can be done to protect surface water quality. Soil and sediment are up first, and is covered in this issue's Top 5 list on the back.



For an up to date detour map, visit www.LansingCSO.com and click on the detours icon.

CSO Traffic Updates and Construction Progress

Downtown – Allegan/Chestnut

- Allegan closed to through traffic between Grand and Capitol; businesses are open
- Chestnut closed to through traffic between Ottawa and Shiawassee; intersection of Ionia and Chestnut is open; businesses are open
- Underground utility installation underway at the intersection of Allegan and Washington
- Water main installation continuing on Allegan from Washington to Capitol
- Steam installation underway on Allegan between Grand and Washington
- Base paving on Chestnut between Ottawa and Shiawassee to occur week of August 17

018SW – Center/Cedar/May

- Cedar closed to through traffic from Grand River to Oakland; businesses are open and detours are posted
- Lane closures to occur on Oakland at Cedar this week
- Cedar to close from Oakland to Monroe on August 17; Two-way traffic will be implemented on Cedar from Saginaw to Monroe
- The Maple/Center intersection will be closed through August 21 to complete underground utilities and road construction
- Road construction underway on Cedar from Grand River to Oakland
- Installation of water main and services complete on Maple between Cedar and Center; road construction to begin within the next two weeks

045 – Saginaw/Pennsylvania

- Traffic has been shifted from the south to the north side on Saginaw between Center and Cleveland; businesses are open and detours are posted
- Road work complete in the southeast corner of the intersection of Pennsylvania and Saginaw; traffic has been shifted to east side of Pennsylvania
- Utility installation is nearly complete on south side of Saginaw between Pennsylvania and Cleveland; road construction has begun
- Utility work continues on Leshler between Linden Grove and Saginaw

034A – Cooper/Poxson

- Sanitary service installation complete on Beal from Cooper to Poxson; road construction to begin this week
- Sanitary sewer and water main installation complete on Poxson from Osband to Beal
- Water services underway on Poxson from MLK Jr to Stirling; water main installation complete on Poxson from Stirling to Rundle

013NE – Creston/Howe

- Sanitary sewer installation complete on Creston north of Howe; road construction to begin within the next two weeks
- Road construction complete on Howe near Cedar
- Road construction continues on Howe east of Creston and Creston south of Howe; base paving expected within two weeks



TOP FIVE Things You Never Knew About Soil and Sediment

- 1. Keep Soil In Its Place** - Soil erosion is a natural process where soil is worn away as water flows over the land from rainfall or snow melt. There are rules in place for keeping soil vegetated or protected during large construction projects, but homeowners also need to take precautions. When landscaping, sweep all soil off of the pavement and back into the garden. Try to restore uncovered soil as soon as possible, or cover it with a tarp to keep it on your property during storms.
- 2. The Dirt on Dirt** - The small particles of soil form a layer of sediment on the river bed. If sediment is not removed by dredging the river, or prevented from entering the river in the first place, it clogs the river and leads to bank erosion, meandering and surface flooding.



Sediment coating bottom of inlet drain

- 3. Below the Surface** - Excess sediment can change a clean gravel bed to a muddy bottom. The soil particles cover spawning areas and smother trout eggs, aquatic insects and oxygen-producing plants.
- 4. Muddy Waters** - Suspended sediment will increase water temperatures, reduce light penetration and plant growth, and affect the ability of fish to locate and capture prey by greatly reducing visibility. Trout and other fish can die from the abrasive, gill clogging effects of suspended sediment, which interferes with their breathing.
- 5. It's the Number One Problem** - Sediment is the primary factor in the deterioration of surface water quality in the United States. If you notice extensive soil erosion near the river or a storm drain, please contact the Public Service Department at 517.483.4455.

Source: <http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wqg/sri/sediment5.pdf>

015N – Willow/Chestnut

- Willow to be based paved and reopened to traffic this week; businesses are open and detours are posted
- Water main and service installation complete on Chestnut north of Willow
- Storm sewer installation complete on Lemrork
- Sanitary sewer and water main installation complete on Pleasant
- Water main installation complete on Edmore
- Sanitary sewer, storm sewer and water main work underway concurrently on Chestnut south of Willow
- Riverbank restoration to begin this week



Base Paving on Willow in 015N

034B – Mt Hope

- Mt Hope closed to through traffic from Cedar to Washington; businesses are open and detours are posted
- Mt Hope to close from Bradley to the railroad tracks west of Washington this week
- Barnes closed to through traffic from Bradley to Todd
- Water main installation complete on Barnes from Bradley to Todd; water service installation underway
- Water main installation complete on Mt Hope between Herbert and Washington; water service installation underway
- Sanitary sewer installation to begin on Barnes from Bradley to Todd and Mt. Hope from Herbert to Washington this week
- Miscellaneous sewer repairs underway on Barnes and Smith

Non-CSO Street and Bridge Construction Progress

Washington Avenue Resurfacing

- Washington between Miller and Jolly will be closed to through traffic for resurfacing starting in mid-August through September; local access will be maintained and a posted detour will include Miller, Haag, MLK Jr and Jolly

Michigan Avenue Resurfacing

- Michigan Avenue between Howard (US-127) and the east city limits will be resurfaced starting in mid August and completed by November
- Traffic will be maintained with one lane in each direction; turning movements will be restricted during some phases of the project
- Work in the intersections of Homer and Howard will be conducted during weekend hours (to be determined) and traffic will be detoured

Aurelius Road Bridge

- The Aurelius Road Bridge over the Red Cedar, north of Mt Hope is closed for deck replacement through September; the road is closed at Mt Hope and at Main; access to the parking lot at Kruger's Landing will be maintained
- The Rivertrail underneath the bridge is closed; pedestrian and bicycle traffic is rerouted south of the bridge on the Rivertrail to cross on Aurelius

Local Street Resurfacing Project (2008-2009)

- Construction is complete on Callihan, Artisan and Stoneleigh
- Park and Pattengill have been pulverized; construction continues

Edgewood Boulevard Resurfacing

- Edgewood is closed to through traffic between MLK Jr and Washington through September
- Georgetown is closed at Edgewood; Georgetown traffic is not able to access Edgewood and must use Haag or Balfour to Miller to exit the neighborhood
- Access to Edgewood Villas and Traditions Townhomes will be maintained

Holmes Road and Waverly Road Intersection

- The intersection of Holmes and Waverly is under partial-width construction and is scheduled to be completed by October
- A southbound left turn lane will be added on Waverly to ease congestion
- The road is closed to through traffic, but access to local businesses is being maintained and was recently improved; a detour is posted directing traffic to use Moores River, Mt Hope, Pleasant Grove and Jolly

Grand Avenue Streetscape Project

- Work will continue through 2010; no road closures are anticipated



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