



ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SHELDON ROAD UNDERPASS PROJECT

When will Sheldon Road be closed?

Based upon current information from the contractor, it is expected that Sheldon Road will close December 12.

What part of Sheldon Road will be closed?

Sheldon Road will be completely closed from Farmer St. to just south of the ramps to M-14. However, an access lane will be maintained to Plymouth Oaks Boulevard from the north.

How long will Sheldon Road be closed?

Starting in December 2006, it is expected that this project will take approximately 23 months to complete, with Sheldon Road closed for the entire time.

Why does Sheldon Road have to be closed completely?

Due to the extensive nature of the work required, including moving a water main and building the underpass for the CSX train tracks, Sheldon Road must be closed completely. In addition, there is no room to construct a temporary road.

How will the road closure effect emergency vehicles?

Emergency vehicles will have access at approved points to both the north and south areas of the construction zone up to the railroad tracks.

What is the Authorized Detour Route for Sheldon Road traffic?

In order to accommodate all traffic, including heavy trucks, only certain roads built to state weight capacity standards can be used. The Authorized Detour Route from Sheldon Road at Farmer St. will be south to Ann Arbor Road, east to I-275, north to M-14 and west to the ramp to Sheldon Road. The Authorized Detour Route from the M-14 ramp will be east on M-14, south on I-275, west on Ann Arbor Road and north on Sheldon Road (see map). The Detour Route will be appropriately signed to advise drivers.

Who is responsible for the work?

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has awarded the contract for this project to the Walter Toebe Construction Co. of Wixom, Michigan. Toebe's Construction Manager is Dave Frogner, with a telephone number of (248) 349-7500. Other sub-contractors may be chosen to perform various portions of this project. The Wayne County Department of Public Services will supervise this project. Wayne County's Supervising Engineer is Michael Lens, (734) 595-6504 Ext. 2077 and our Project Engineer is Craig Wobrock, (734) 595-6504 Ext. 2070. Inquiries should go first to Mr. Wobrock.



What will the Contractors' hours of operation be?

It is expected that the contractors will work during winter months for approximately nine hours a day, from daylight until dusk, and in warmer months from about dawn (about 6:15 am) to dusk (between 9:00 and 10:00 pm).

What measures will be taken to prevent access to the closed portion of Sheldon Road?

The construction zone will be barricaded on both the north and south, and appropriately signed as Closed to Traffic. Any drivers attempting to evade a barricade, ignoring the warning signs and entering the construction zone will be subject to violation by law enforcement, as well as running risk of damage to their vehicles and possibility of injury to themselves and construction workers. So, as the slogan goes: Give the Workers a Break! The entire boundary of the construction zone cannot be fenced, so parents in surrounding neighborhoods should instruct and supervise their children to avoid the construction zone.

What measures are being taken to assist local traffic?

Wayne County DPS is working with representatives of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township to change traffic light signal patterns on certain nearby streets like Beck Road to better accommodate the heavier volume of traffic. Wayne County has also completed extensive and expensive improvements to various sections of Beck in anticipation of Sheldon Road being closed.

What effect will this project have on water supply to Plymouth?

Near the beginning of the project, two temporary water main connections will be installed in anticipation of later closing and moving the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department water main. The temporary connections will be tested for three days to make sure they will be adequate. The temporary connections will only have to be used for about two weeks during the spring of 2007. Every effort will be made to maintain adequate water service during the work on what admittedly is an antiquated water infrastructure.

Will there be on-going communication and cooperation between the parties involved in this project?

Absolutely. Wayne County DPS appreciates the participation and assistance of the City of Plymouth, Charter Township of Plymouth, the Michigan Department of Transportation, CSX Transportation and the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department, as well as various utilities, the contractors and consulting engineers. By contractual requirement, Wayne County DPS will maintain a construction trailer on the work site, where inspectors will work and be available. The City of Plymouth will host weekly Progress Meetings at their Public Services offices on Goldsmith, which will also facilitate communication and coordination. Plymouth elected leaders and their engineers also communicate regularly with Wayne County officials and our engineers, so they will be aware of progress and if any situations arise requiring notice to the public.

We understand that this project will cause inconvenience and some concern to drivers and the community, and we appreciate your patience and cooperation. As the saying goes: "Short term pain for long term gain." When completed, this project will provide an uninterrupted north-south artery for northwestern Wayne County, and traffic delays waiting for trains crossing Sheldon Road will be eliminated. Thank you.

