



For Immediate Release
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West Maple Road Resurfacing Project Cranbrook Road to Southfield Road

BIRMINGHAM, Mich., April 30, 2015 – The City of Birmingham plans to resurface W. Maple Rd. from Cranbrook Rd. to Southfield Rd. in 2016. The project was originally planned for this year, but was postponed another year in order to qualify for federal funding that will cover 80% of the construction cost.

The City's Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) will be studying the corridor as part of the City's Multi-Modal Transportation Plan to confirm if changes should be made to the road configuration as a part of this project. To assist in this effort a ten member steering committee was formed to help represent the varied stakeholders that live and work along this corridor and provide input for the MMTB to consider. The group, known as the W. Maple Rd. Steering Committee, met a total of four times over a three month period to identify issues for improvement and potential solutions to address them. A professional engineering firm was also tasked with studying the existing conditions and assist the Committee in reviewing all data necessary in order for the Committee to make recommendations relative to the best approach for the future.

On April 16, 2015, the W. Maple Rd. Steering Committee voted in favor of recommending a modified cross-section for W. Maple Rd. from east of Cranbrook Rd. to Chester St. that included a three lane configuration with two through lanes and one continuous left turn lane. While there was discussion about incorporating a bike lane in both directions, the Committee recommended to delete the bike lane, and mark the pavement so that this area acts as a paved shoulder. A right turn lane for eastbound traffic was also recommended for the Southfield Rd. intersection to reduce congestion. It was also recommended that about six months after construction, the City evaluate the success of the recommended changes, measured particularly by Level of Service at each intersection, changes in crash rates, and changes in cut through traffic on specific local streets that may be impacted by this change.

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board will be reviewing this recommendation at their meeting of Thursday, May 7, at 6:00 P.M. Given the level of interest in the community, highlights of the entire study will be reviewed by the engineering consultant so that the MMTB, as well as all attendees may fully understand the rationale behind these recommendations. After full discussion, the Multi-Modal Transportation Board will consider making a recommendation to the City Commission, where the final decision on the project will ultimately be made.

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board meeting is open to the public. All interested stakeholders are invited to attend and partake in the discussion.

Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board
Final Review of W. Maple Rd. Resurfacing Project
City Commission Room, Municipal Building, 151 Martin St.
Thursday, May 7, 6:00 P.M.

Please enter through the Police Dept. door located on Pierce St. For more information, contact the city's Engineering Department at (248) 530-1850.