

Roads officials announce plans for 2016 Dequindre Road construction

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Officials from the Road Commission for Oakland County and the Macomb County Department of Roads held a public open house Jan. 13 in Rochester Hills to discuss a planned reconstruction of Dequindre Road in Shelby Township, Sterling Heights, Troy and Rochester Hills.

The scope of the project discussed runs from Burningsh Road north to West Utica Road, and it includes storm drainage and widening of portions of the road resulting in a five-lane concrete reconstruction the length of the entire project.

"This is another great example of government collaboration to meet the needs of our residents and taxpayers," Township Supervisor



Officials from the Road Commission for Oakland County and the Macomb County Department of Roads recently announced plans for the reconstruction of Dequindre Road in Shelby Township, Sterling Heights, Troy and Rochester Hills. ADVISOR & SOURCE FILE PHOTO

Richard Stathakis said. "I congratulate our partners with the Road Commission for Oakland County in securing more than \$6 million in federal dollars for this project."

Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring and is expected to be completed by the fall, with some restoration work to be completed in 2017. The

total cost of the project is \$7.7 million, which is offset with \$6.2 million in federal funding.

Once a formal contract for the project is approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation, a cost-share agreement will be drafted by the RCOC for the five local municipalities and the two county road agencies.

According to Stathakis, estimates for Shelby Township's portion are roughly \$120,000.

"Because of the moves by our Board of Trustees such as adopting a Capital Improvement Plan and using our annual general fund surpluses in a conscientious manner, we have the resources to take advantage

Roads

FROM PAGE A1

of opportunities like this," Stathakis said. "You never know when and where road money will be available in our state, so the most important thing a local government can do is be ready to take advantage when the opportunity does arise."

Early plans call for the road to be constructed in two main stages.

In the first stage, crews will construct the east side of Dequindre Road and the south side of South Boulevard. The second stage will see construction on the west side of Dequindre Road and the north side of South Boulevard.

Dequindre Road will be open to traffic for the entirety of the project as

three lanes - one lane in each direction and a center left turn lane - will be maintained throughout the project. West Utica Road is proposed to be closed at Dequindre Road for approximately three weeks. The detour route will be Ryan Road to Dobby Road.

Along with the recon-

struction and widening, a redesign of the intersection at Dequindre and West Utica roads is planned as Melville Road in Rochester Hills will be aligned with West Utica Road with a new traffic signal installed at that location.

Because it lies on a county border, Dequindre

Road is maintained by the MCDR between 8 Mile and 14 Mile roads and also between 26 Mile and Boardman roads. The RCOC manages Dequindre Road between 14 Mile and 26 Mile roads.

For more information, contact the RCOC at 248-645-2000 or visit www.rcocweb.org.

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