

## **DEXTER-PINCKNEY RD BRIDGE OVER THE PORTAGE LAKE CANAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)**

**Purpose:** To inform residents, area motorists, public agencies and other project stakeholders of the scope of the impending bridge construction and to address general concerns.

**What are the limits of the construction?** Construction will include the removal and replacement of the existing Dexter-Pinckney Road Bridge over the Portage Lake Canal. The limits of the project extend approximately 100-feet north and south of the bridge.

**Who is the contractor for this project?** The prime contractor is Dan's Excavating, Inc. of Shelby Township, Michigan. Dan's Excavating, Inc. constructed the Jackson Boulevard Bridges over Honey Creek in 2002. Dan's Excavating, Inc. most recently constructed the third phase of the Jackson Boulevard project.

**How is the project being paid for?** The bid submitted by Dan's Excavating, Inc. through the Michigan DOT bidding process was \$1.38 million. The project is being funded through the Michigan DOT Local Bridge Program, with 95-percent of the cost being paid by the State, and 5-percent being paid by the Washtenaw County Road Commission. Costs associated with right-of-way, construction inspection and surveying, and materials testing are also being paid by the WCRC.

**What is the construction schedule?** Pending the award of the contract by the MDOT, the project is expected to start in March 2010. Per the project specifications, the project is to be completed in August 2010.

**What will be the hours of construction?** Hours are generally established by the contractor, based on the project schedule. It is common for contractor crews to work Monday through Saturday, roughly 10-12 hours per day. Per the project specifications, site work is to be suspended during recognized holiday weekends, including Memorial Day and Independence Day. Placing of deck concrete during the summer months is required during nighttime hours, due to the effect of high daytime temperatures on concrete.

**How will the new bridge differ from the existing?** The new bridge will be 73' long (span over the Canal) with a 35'-6" clear roadway (2 lanes @ 11', 2 shoulders @ 6'-9") and will be capable of carrying full legal loads. The existing bridge, constructed in 1920, is 46' long with a 23' clear roadway and is weight restricted due to structural deterioration (23T-31T-35T).

**Will traffic be maintained during the bridge construction?** Dexter-Pinckney Road will be completely closed at the bridge during construction. The signed detour route will follow McGregor Road and M-36. Access will be maintained for addresses from the north and from the south, but the existing bridge will be completely removed and closed to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

Boating traffic in the canal will experience intermittent closures. The closures will be kept to a minimum, but must be implemented at certain times to ensure the safety of passing boaters. Warning buoys, fencing and signs will be placed. Per the project specifications, the Canal must be open to boat traffic during the Independence Day holiday weekend.

**Will trees be removed as part of the construction project?** A limited number of trees will need to be removed to accommodate the construction of the new bridge. Representatives of the Road Commission have met with affected property owners to discuss tree removal and disposal of wood.

**How will access to adjacent properties be maintained?** The Contractor is charged with the responsibility of providing and maintaining all temporary ramps, crossings, etcetera necessary to provide access throughout the project; however short delays will occasionally be needed to accommodate construction operations.

The WCRC Operations Department is making accommodations for the possibility of winter maintenance (plowing) to the north and south of the bridge during the closure.

Local public agencies have been advised of the impending closure: Livingston County 911 Central Dispatch, Huron Valley Ambulance, Putnam Township and Dexter Area Fire Departments, Livingston County and Washtenaw County Sheriff's Departments, Village of Pinckney Police, Livingston County Road Commission, Dexter Community Schools Transportation Department, and the US Postal Service.

**Will area utilities be affected?** The replacement of the bridge will include the relocation of an existing 6" sanitary sewer force main. The WCRC has coordinated this utility relocation with the Portage-Base Lakes Area Water & Sewer Authority. Detroit Edison (electric), Consumers Energy (gas), and AT&T (telephone) utilities have also been identified and relocated as needed. The Contractor is responsible for protecting utilities and for contacting utility owners in the event a utility is impacted by the construction activities.

**Can adjacent property owners get additional work done by contractor for the project?** The Contractor and any subcontractors are prohibited from performing any private work within the project area until the work governed by the Road Commission contract is completed.

#### **OTHER POTENTIAL CONCERNS:**

**Responsibility for protecting/relocating existing landscape features.** Adjacent property owners are responsible for any lights, landscaping, sprinklers, fences or other personal property located within the public road right-of-way. The WCRC is not responsible for damage to personal property items that remain within the public road right-of-way.

**Safety:** Safety is the most important aspect of the project. Please be mindful of the equipment, trucks, and personnel coming to and departing from the site. Please be attentive to all signs.

While these construction activities are often interesting to observe, the site will only be open to authorized construction personnel.