

**HARRIS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**  
**Michigan Avenue (U.S.-12) to Holmes Road**  
**FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)**

**FAQ purpose:** To share details and address general concerns regarding the proposed 2018 Harris Road reconstruction project with area residents, businesses, motorists, emergency services, public agencies, and other stakeholders.

**What is the proposed scope of work?**

Harris Road will be reconstructed between Michigan Avenue (U.S.-12) and Holmes Road. The new two-lane roadway will include bike lanes, concrete curb, driveways, sidewalk, street lights, green infrastructure such as rain gardens, and a roundabout at the Harris Road and Cross Street intersection. It is also anticipated the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA) will replace the existing water main within the project limits.

**How is this project funded?**

Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) is using federal funds from the Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-U) to fund the road project and YCUA would fund any water main improvements.

**What is the estimated cost of construction for the road improvement project?**

\$1.4 million

**How will Harris Road differ from what exists today?**

The new two-lane roadway will include bike lanes, concrete curb, driveways, sidewalk, and street lights similar to Holmes Road between Prospect Road and Michigan Avenue (U.S.-12). Additionally, a single lane roundabout will be constructed at the intersection of Harris Road and Cross Street. The roundabout will provide traffic calming and improved safety at the existing intersection.

**When will construction start and be completed?**

WCRC is planning to start work in the spring of 2018 and complete the project by early fall 2018. The official start date is contingent upon approval of various governmental permits and seasonal/weather limitations.

**Will I have access to my property during construction?**

All individuals with property inside the work limits (Michigan Avenue [U.S.-12] and Holmes Road) will be provided access to and from their property by the contractor during construction.

**Will Harris Road be open to through-traffic during construction?**

No, only property owners within the project limits will be permitted to drive in the construction zone. All others will have to follow posted detour routes listed below:

- Harris Rd traffic use Burbank Rd to Cross St to Prospect Rd to Holmes Rd
- WB Forest Rd traffic use NB Ford Blvd to WB Holmes Rd to SB Prospect Rd
- EB Forest Rd traffic use NB Prospect to EB Holmes to SB Ford Blvd
- EB Cross St traffic use Burbank Rd to Michigan Ave

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**Will area utilities be affected?**

Yes, but WCRC has not determined which utility owners internal to the project limits will be affected at this time. All utilities that impact road construction will be required to resolve conflicts prior to the start of construction. Often utility infrastructure must be relocated to a new location in the road right-of-way.

**Will trees be removed as part of the construction project?**

Yes, trees will be removed to accommodate the new road and sidewalk footprint. WCRC will continue to meet with affected property owners to discuss project impacts.

**What is green infrastructure / rain garden?**

Green infrastructure, such as rain gardens, use vegetation, soil, and other elements to manage storm water runoff. Storm water is created when rain falls on roads, driveways and other paved surfaces that do not allow water to soak into the ground. Storm water can contain pollutants which can “runoff” into traditional storm sewers and local waterbodies. Green infrastructure is a cost-effective way to reduce and treat storm water at its source by letting plants and soil absorb and filter the runoff.

This project will include rain gardens. Examples of rain gardens can be seen on the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner’s website: <http://bit.ly/raingardenexample>  
Specific details will be reviewed with property owners whose road frontage may be considered for a proposed rain garden in the right-of-way.

**What will happen with mailboxes and mail delivery?**

Mail service will continue during construction. However, mailbox locations will likely be temporarily relocated to outer ends of the project limits during construction. The U.S. Postal Service typically does not deliver mail inside active construction work zones. At the conclusion of construction, mailboxes will be relocated back to their current locations, or as close as possible.

**Will accommodations be provided for school bus pickup during construction?**

WCRC staff will meet with representatives of the school district to discuss details concerning student pickup and drop off internal to the project limits while school is in session.

**How will trash pickup be affected?**

The contractor will accommodate garbage/recycling services throughout construction.

**PROJECT CONTACTS/INFORMATION:**

Questions concerning the Harris Road project should be directed to the following person:

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