

Public Notice

2017 HILLTOP ROAD PROJECT

Dear Resident:

Construction for the upcoming Hilltop Road Rehabilitation Project on Hilltop Road from Lakeshore Drive (I-94 BL) to Niles Road (M-63) is scheduled to commence March 20, 2017 (weather permitting). We are contacting you because the project will affect your area. Before providing details on the upcoming construction, here is some background regarding this project:

This project is a collaboration between the City of St. Joseph, the Berrien County Road Commission, St. Joseph Charter Township and the Southwest Michigan Regional Sanitary Sewer and Water Authority. These groups have come together to accomplish needed improvements for the Hilltop Road area including the replacement of aging water mains, minor sewer repairs and resurfacing of the existing pavement. The project also includes installation of sidewalk from Lakeshore Drive to the Railroad tracks and from east of Lakeview Avenue to east of Washington Avenue. The final items of work will be the widening of Lakeview Avenue from Veronica Drive to Hilltop Road (see attached drawing of proposed changes) and the upgrading of the existing railroad crossing west of Cleveland Avenue on Hilltop Road.

The project takes advantage of funding through the Local Agency Program which is administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation. The project will receive approximately \$550,000 in grant funding from the State of Michigan. The remainder of the project costs are covered by the groups listed above. It is expected this project will reduce the number of water main breaks, extend the life of the existing roadway and make it safer for both vehicles and pedestrians to travel through the Hilltop Road corridor.

This project's construction encompasses Hilltop Road and Lakeview Avenue with the specific limits of construction outlined below.

- Hilltop Road – Lakeshore Drive (I-94 BL) to Niles Road (M-63) – approximately 1 mile
- Lakeview Avenue – Veronica Drive to Hilltop Road – approximately 300 feet

The project will be constructed in two phases to reduce as much as possible the impact to area residents and businesses. A brief description of the phasing follows; however, you might find it easier to look at the attached map that illustrates the sequence of construction.

- Phase I limits include Hilltop Road from Lakeshore Drive (I-94 BL) to Cleveland Avenue
- Phase II limits include Hilltop Road from Cleveland Avenue to Niles Road (M-63).

During the majority of the project, traffic will be maintained throughout the length of Hilltop Road; however, lanes will be closed and traffic shifted to other lanes as needed during construction.

A detour for Hilltop Road will be in effect between Lakeshore Drive (I-94 BL) to Cleveland Avenue for approximately one (1) week during construction at the railroad crossing. During this time Hilltop Road will be closed to traffic passing through; however, access to driveways within the closure will be

maintained. Additionally, barricades, barrels and advance warning signs will be placed at appropriate locations to provide notification of the lane closure to local traffic.

Access to driveways will be provided to the greatest extent possible. Unavoidable but temporary obstructions of driveways may take place; however, access to drives will be restored prior to close of construction activities that day.

On occasion, water service will be interrupted or you may be asked to reduce water usage to facilitate construction. These inconveniences will generally last several hours and the contractor will provide notice of these planned shutoffs. It is normal for sediment to be suspended in the water following work on the mains and while the water mains will be flushed to remove the material, we recommend that you flush your service line from an outside spigot or a utility sink to remove any remaining sediment prior to resuming normal household use.

If unexpected conditions are encountered, water service may be interrupted with little to no notice. We are requesting daytime telephone numbers from all residents in case we need to contact you regarding such an unexpected event. Please Email, mail, FAX (269-985-0349) or drop off the included form. We also ask that you call if you require special care or services to allow us to inform the contractor of your circumstances. Should a concern arise during construction, please contact Andrew Rudd, the full time, on-site, Inspector from Wightman & Associates, Inc. at 269-200-2704. If the Inspector is not readily available, please call the Project Engineer from Wightman & Associates, Inc., Alan Smaka, at 269-200-4240. If you are unable to reach either of the above contacts, call City Engineer, Tim Zebell, at 269-983-5541. After hours, non-emergency calls should be directed to the City of St. Joseph Water Plant at 269-983-1240. Additionally, The St. Joseph Charter Township Manager, Denise Cook, can be contacted at 269-429-7703.

A Public Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on March 15, 2017 at the City of St. Joseph City Hall (700 Broad Street St. Joseph, MI 49085) for those with questions or desiring additional information. We thank you for your patience during this time of inconvenience. The project will ultimately result in better roadways, sewer and water service in the project area and improved water quality and reliability for the entire community.

Commonly Asked Questions

1) **What is typically replaced on a street?**

The project will include replacement of the water main, minor sewer repairs as well as resurfacing the entire roadway. Sidewalks will be installed or replaced as outlined above or when required for connection of water services.

2) **Will my water service line be replaced?**

Water services lines will be replaced up to the right-of-way line.

3) **How long will I be without water?**

Typically, about 2 to 4 hours is required to switch the water service from the old main to the new main.

4) **When will work start and how long will it take to complete the project?**

The project is scheduled to start on March 20th (weather allowing) and will continue throughout the spring. The project will be phased per the attached map. The entire project area is scheduled to be open to traffic by July 1st, 2017.

5) **Who is the Contractor?**

Kalin Construction Company, Inc. submitted the low bid at \$1,537,047.35.

6) **Will trees be removed in front of my house?**

Tree removal is typically limited to the tree lawn area and only when absolutely required for construction.

7) **I require special care/services; how will the project effect me?**

If you have a condition that requires special consideration i.e. medical services, disabled accessibility, Meals on Wheels, etc. Please contact the Project Engineer, Alan Smaka (269-200-4240) or the City Engineer, Tim Zebell (269-983-5541) immediately. We will notify the Contractor of your needs and schedule a meeting to discuss your particular circumstances if necessary.

8) **If I have a problem during construction, who do I contact?**

The Engineer will have a full-time Inspector on the project (Andrew Rudd, 269-200-2704) and if possible, he should be your first contact. If the Inspector cannot be contacted, you will need to call the Project Engineer, Alan Smaka at Wightman & Associates, Inc. (269-200-4240).

9) **What about access to my driveway?**

Driveways will be closed when construction is underway in front of your property and access will vary dependent upon the driveway location and Contractor's activities. Driveway closures are required when the Contractor is installing water main, sewer, curb and gutter and pavement. The length of time for these inconveniences will be the time required by the Contractor to install the utilities as they pass by your house or business. The curb and gutter work will take a longer period of time due to the necessary preparation work, placement of curb and cure time (typically 7 days). Your cooperation is greatly appreciated during this process.

10) **Why does the project need to be done?**

Hilltop Road has a history of water main breaks due to the advanced age of the system. This project will replace a large portion of those decaying mains and do so prior to the resurfacing of the roadway.



2017 HILLTOP ROAD PROJECT

Contact Information

First Call:

Alan Smaka, P.E., Project Engineer
Wightman & Associates, Inc.
9835 Portage Road
Portage, MI 49002

Phone: (269) 200-4240
FAX: (269) 927-1300
Email: [asmaka@wightman-
assoc.com](mailto:asmaka@wightman-
assoc.com)

**If additional follow-up is necessary
with the City of St. Joseph, call:**

Tim Zebell, P.E., City Engineer
City of St. Joseph
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 983-5541
FAX: (269) 985-0346
Email: tzebell@sjcity.com

**If additional follow-up is necessary with
St. Joseph Charter Township, call:**

Denise Cook, Township Manager
St. Joseph Charter Township
3000 Washington Ave. P.O. Box 147
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 429-7703
FAX: (269) 429-2079
Email: dcook@sjct.org

**If after hours, please call:
City of St. Joseph Water Plant
Phone: 269-983-1240**

2017 HILLTOP ROAD PROJECT
Requested Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

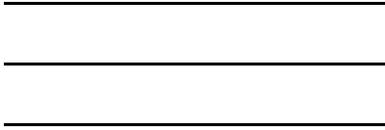
Please mail, FAX or drop off this form to the St. Joseph
City Manager's Office, Attn.: Tim Zebell

Fold along and tape to mail.

FAX: (269) 985-0346

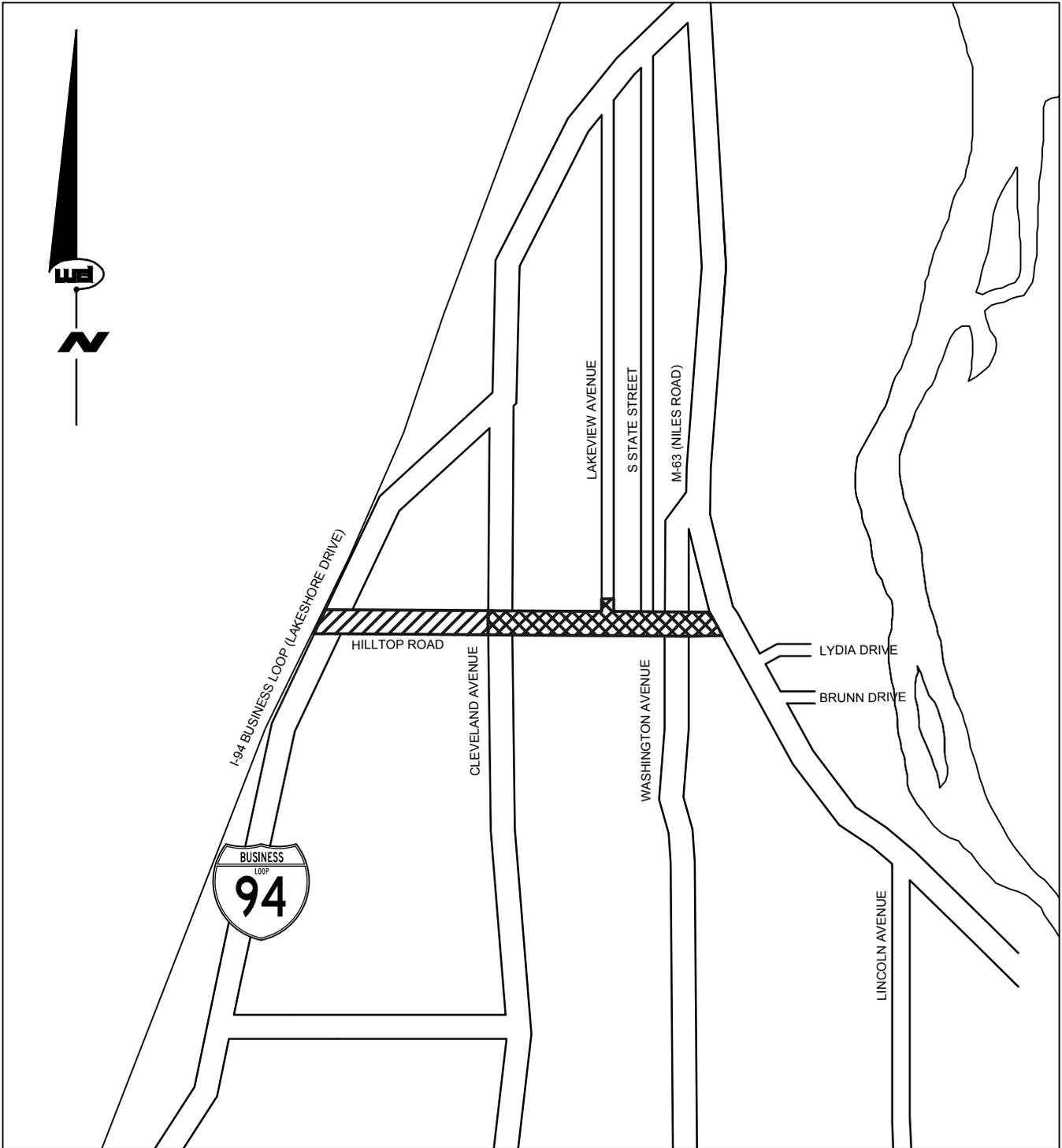
Email: tzebell@sjcity.com

Please call 983-5541 with special care requirements.



Place
Stamp
Here

City of St. Joseph
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085
Attn.: Tim Zebell, City Engineer



PHASE I - MARCH 20TH TO APRIL 26TH



PHASE II - APRIL 27TH TO JULY 1ST

70
YEARS

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
★ FIRM OF THE YEAR ★

WAI WIGHTMAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING ♦ SURVEYING ♦ ARCHITECTURE

264 Western Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: (269) 673-8465

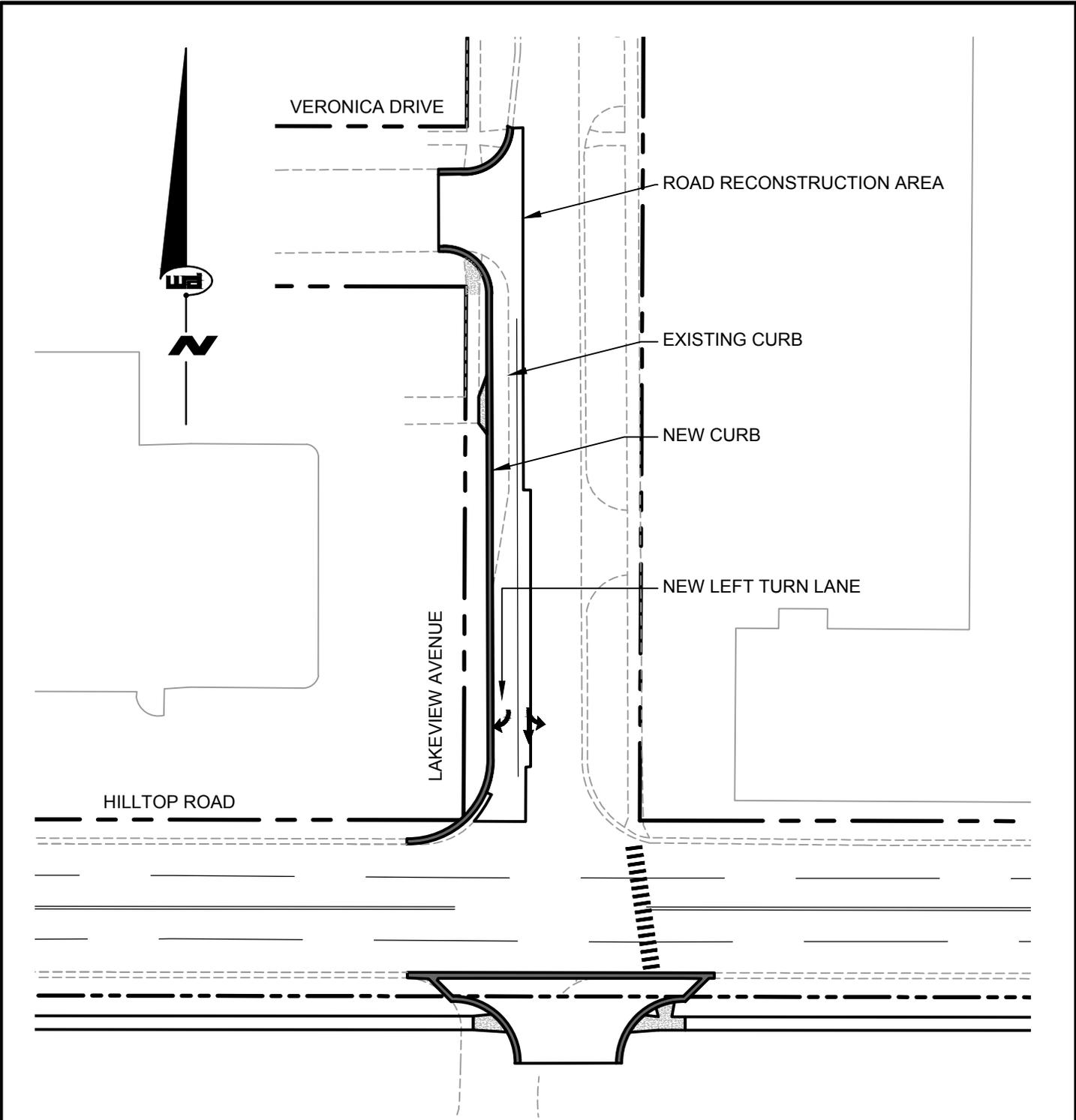
2303 Pipestone Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
Phone: (269) 927-0100

9835 Portage Road
Portage, MI 49002
Phone: (269) 327-3532

www.wightman-assoc.com

CONSTRUCTION PHASING & PROPOSED SCHEDULE PROJECT: HILLTOP ROAD REHABILITATION

DATE: MARCH, 2017



W&A WIGHTMAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING ♦ SURVEYING ♦ ARCHITECTURE

264 Western Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: (269) 673-8465

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Benton Harbor, MI 49022
Phone: (269) 927-0100

9835 Portage Road
Portage, MI 49002
Phone: (269) 327-3532

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LAKEVIEW AVENUE WIDENING
PROJECT: HILLTOP ROAD REHABILITATION

DATE: MARCH, 2017