



CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

750 LAKESIDE DRIVE SE-EAST GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49506

November 17, 2020

Dear East Grand Rapids Resident/Property Owner:

The Cities of East Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids have secured federal grant funding for collaborative roto mill and resurfacing projects on Hall Street from Plymouth Road to Lake Drive. The projects were approved in the regional Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) through our metropolitan planning organization, the Grand Valley Metro Council. These projects are slated for summer 2021.

There are two segments of these coordinated projects, a shared portion with the City of Grand Rapids and a segment that will solely be East Grand Rapids. The shared portion extends from Plymouth Road east to approximately Wilshire Drive. Federal grant funds towards this shared section are \$245,643 with a local match of approximately \$250,000, which will be split equally between Grand Rapids and East Grand Rapids. The East Grand Rapids only segment stretches from approximately Wilshire Drive east to Lake Drive and is programmed with federal grant funding of \$641,718 with a local match from EGR at \$208,282.

East Grand Rapids has been working with Progressive AE this year on a community-wide Mobility-Bike Action Plan to identify, plan and integrate bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in a coordinated effort with neighboring communities as was laid out from the 2018 City Master Plan. Though the plan is not yet completed, bike lane facilities on Hall Street connecting to Grand Rapids are an identified change to this street segment. Over the past 20 years, citizen-initiated traffic-calming bump-outs have been installed on Hall Street to lower speeds. Draft design plans from Moore and Bruggink Engineering include these traffic-calming bump-outs as well as bike lane facilities with "slot-through" bump-out modifications where practical and feasible in coordination with similar infrastructure with Grand Rapids. The draft plans attempt to allow for maintaining traffic calming and the addition of bike lanes. Generally affording both of these types of features presents maintenance challenges to ensure that bike lane gaps between the slot-through bump outs are maintained with respect to winter maintenance during the winter season and street sweeping during remaining seasons. Because East Grand Rapids has equipment and a higher level of service through the Department of Public Works, if these modifications are approved, the City is positioned to maintain them. One component of the draft plans that unfortunately cannot be accommodated due to limited public right-of-way space and required bike and travel lane widths is on-street parking (with the exception of Lakeside Elementary).

Since public engagement must be different during the current pandemic, the City is offering several ways for residents/property owners to review plans and provide feedback. The City has an in-person review option with a setup of plans, documents, comment cards etc. in the lower level of the Community Center/Municipal Complex adjacent to the Department of Public Works Administration and Engineering Offices. Residents who adhere to COVID requirements can stop in to review plans and documents and ask questions to on-site staff during regular business hours of 8am-5pm and viewing only during evening hours generally until 8pm when the facility is closed (which may be

subject to change). The very same documents are also currently available on the City website homepage so residents/property owners can review plans, documents and access comment cards remotely. Please visit the City website homepage or directly enter **eastgr.org/hallstreet** to view all documents.

The City will also have two ZOOM sessions with engineers from Moore and Bruggink and City Staff as noted with links on the City homepage or directly at **eastgr.org/hallstreet** for Monday, November 23, from 12:00-1:00pm and Tuesday, November 24, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. A review of the project and questions and answers will take place at both sessions.

The materials have been present for in-person view and via the City website starting November 16 with a deadline to submit comment cards by 5:00pm on December 14.

Feedback and comment cards will be compiled and submitted to the City Commission for their consideration at the December 21, 2020 meeting at 6:00pm. The City Commission meeting is virtual (see City website for meeting instructions) where a public hearing will also be held.

Residents of Hall Street have been sent this informational notice with comment card directly to ensure that all residents are aware of the upcoming project and engagement opportunities. For residents and property owners of the entire community, this information will be shared via the City website, social media and water/sewer bill inserts.

For questions, please contact the City via phone by calling 616-940-4817 or e-mail at publicworks@eastgr.org

Thank you,

East Grand Rapids Department of Public Works