



PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

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IMPENDING MAPLE/DRAKE ROUNDABOUT CONSTRUCTION TO BE TOPIC OF MARCH 13 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Beverly Hills, Mich. – Beginning in April, the intersection of Maple and Drake roads in West Bloomfield Township will be reconstructed as a modern roundabout as the first element of the Northwestern Connector project. The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), the City of Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield Township will jointly conduct a public information meeting March 13 to provide details about the project, which will involve the closure of Drake at Maple for the duration of construction.

The meeting will take place in the lower-level conference area of Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 West Maple Road, just west of Drake Road. It will run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The meeting will be “open house” format – anyone interested can stop by at any time during this period; there will be no formal presentations.

To get to the conference area, enter the main front doors of the facility and turn left. The stairs and elevators to the lower level are just past the front lobby. Follow the signs through the glass door to the conference area.

The Maple/Drake intersection reconstruction will get underway in early April. At that time, Drake Road will be closed to through traffic. At the same time, Maple Road will be widened in front of the Henry Ford facility.

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MAPLE/DRAKE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING / 2 OF 2

The intersection project is part of the larger Northwestern Connector Project, which is intended to relieve traffic congestion and improve safety in the area where Northwestern Highway ends at Orchard Lake Road, and better move that traffic to M-5, less than five miles to the west. It is a partnership of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), RCOC, the City of Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield Township.

Ultimately, the Northwestern Connector Project will include construction of eight modern roundabouts as well as reconstructing Orchard Lake Road as a six-lane boulevard between 14 Mile and Maple roads and widening both Maple and 14 Mile roads between Orchard Lake and M-5. However the widening of Maple and 14 Mile roads remains unfunded.

For more information about the Northwestern Connector Project, visit the project Web site, www.nwconnector.com or call the RCOC Department of Citizen Services at (877) 858-4804.

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