

Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing Project

Initial Project Update

Public Meeting Notice: July 1, 2025 at 6:00 pm – City Hall Commission Chambers

The Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing Project will soon be underway; therefore, this update is being published to inform those impacted or interested in the project of what to expect. The construction includes Cleveland Avenue from Hilltop Road to Lakeshore Drive (BL94). The reason the project is being undertaken is to resurface the roadway and to replace sidewalk ramps as needed to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The resurfacing work consists of milling the full depth of asphalt followed by repaving the road with asphalt (HMA) pavement.

City Staff and Abonmarche Consultants have teamed to manage projects successfully in the City for more than 20 years. The contractor, Rieth Riley is located in Benton Harbor, Michigan and has worked in the City on numerous projects, most recently as the general contractor on the 2023 Resurfacing and 2024 Lake Blvd/Broad Street Resurfacing Projects.

Schedule Information

Rieth-Riley has informed the City that they intend to start work on July 14th and the project is expected to be substantially complete by mid-September.

Scope of Work

As stated above, the proposed work will occur on Cleveland Avenue from Hilltop Road to Lakeshore Drive. While the roadway resurfacing is underway, we will take the opportunity to replace sidewalk and concrete pavement in some spots, and sidewalk ramps in order to meet current ADA standards.

Traffic Maintenance / Access / Trash Pickup / Water Service

Access to driveways, on-street parking and traffic maintenance will be a challenge during this project and we ask your patience, particularly when construction impacts your property frontage. Fortunately, the bulk of this work will consist of milling and resurfacing the asphalt pavement, which is a relatively quick process – as compared to full roadway reconstruction - so driveway impacts and roadway detours/closures will be on the order of weeks and not months.

For trash and recycle pickup, we request that you place your containers along the road as normal. If you have a problem with your trash pickup, please contact Liam Cormier, Streets Superintendent (telephone: 269-983-6341, email: lcormier@sjcity.com). We expect the U.S. Postal Service to be able to maintain normal mail delivery however, should this prove to be problematic we will contact you with further information.

We do not anticipate any water service shut off as part of this project. If unexpected conditions are encountered such as water main breaks or service leaks, the water may need to be shut off without notice. If such a situation occurs, the on-site inspector(s) will do his/her

best to keep the affected businesses and residents updated on the situation. After a water interruption, it is likely sediment from the old main will be suspended in the water. We ask that you flush your service line by running water from an outside spigot or a utility sink to clear your water service. It is important to note that your water service may be affected even if work is not occurring directly in front of your property.

Contact Information

General construction related questions should be directed to Tim Drews, the Project Engineer at Abonmarche or Tim Zebell, the Assistant City Manager/City Engineer. Specific minor construction issues should be directed to the Abonmarche Inspector on site. The inspectors are generally easily identifiable as they typically wear Abonmarche safety vests and drive vehicles with the company logo. A contact information sheet is attached and may be clipped for posting on your refrigerator, etc. We also request that you fill out and return the attached contact information form. This will allow City Staff to contact you should a construction related issue require individual notification during the day.

A Public Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on July 1, 2025 in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall for those with questions or desiring additional information. In addition to this notice and the Public Meeting, progress notices will be posted to the City's website (www.sjcity.com) and City Facebook and Instagram pages on a periodic basis. If you are interested in receiving update notices via email, please provide your email address on the attached form. We thank you for your patience during this time of inconvenience. The project will ultimately result in a better roadway surface, sidewalk and ramps in the project area.

Commonly Asked Questions Regarding Construction Projects

- 1) **What is typically done on a street resurfacing project?**
The project will include milling the full depth of the existing asphalt pavement and repaving the roadway with new asphalt. The new asphalt will be placed in three layers (courses) of asphalt.
- 2) **How long will I be without water?**
No planned water shut offs are expected, however, water main breaks can occur during construction. If this occurs, the on-site inspector will do their best to keep impacted properties informed of the duration of the interruption.
- 3) **When will work start and how long will it take to complete the project?**
The project is scheduled to start on July 14th and is expected to be complete by mid-September. The replacement of ADA ramps and sidewalk will lead off, followed by the milling and resurfacing of the roadway.
- 4) **Who is the Contractor?**
Rieth Riley submitted the low bid of \$563,753.25 through the MDOT bid letting process. Approximately \$461,300 of the project cost will be covered by the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding, and that requires the project to adhere to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements.
- 5) **Will trees be removed in front of my house?**
No tree removals are anticipated as part of the project.
- 6) **I require special care/services; how will the project affect me?**
If you have a condition that requires special consideration i.e. medical services, disabled accessibility, Meals on Wheels, etc. please contact the Assistant City Manager/City Engineer, Tim Zebell, as soon as possible (983-5541). We will notify the Contractor of your needs and schedule a meeting to discuss your particular circumstances, if necessary.
- 7) **If I have a problem during construction, who do I contact?**
Abonmarche Consultants will have an Inspector on the project; he or she should be your first contact (the Inspectors typically wear safety vests that identify them as an Abonmarche employee). If the Inspector cannot be contacted, please call Tim Drews at 269-876-9286.
- 8) **What about access to my driveway?**
Driveways will be inaccessible for varying length of times dependent upon the work items underway, however, milling and resurfacing operations allow for driveway access in a much shorter turnaround time than full roadway reconstruction.
- 9) **Why does the project need to be done?**
The project is being undertaken to resurface the street and reconstruct select sidewalk ramps to meet current standards.
- 10) **If I have a problem after normal hours, who do I contact?**
In case of an emergency, please dial 911. If your problem is less critical in nature, for example no water service, sewer backup, etc. please contact the St. Joseph Drinking Water Treatment Plant (269-983-1240). The operator on duty will then contact the appropriate personnel to address your concern.

**Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing Project
Contact Information**

First Call:

Tim Drews, P.E., Project Engineer
Vice President
Abonmarche Consultants, Inc.
95 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Phone: (269) 876-9286
FAX: (269) 927-1017
Email: tdrews@abonmarche.com

If additional follow-up is necessary, call:

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

Phone: (269) 985-0339
FAX: (269) 985-0346
Email : tzebell@sjcity.com

For non-emergency, after normal working hours, call:

St. Joseph Drinking Water Treatment Plant Operator on Duty:
Phone: (269) 983-1240

**Cleveland Avenue Resurfacing Project
Requested Information**

Name:_____

Address:_____

Daytime Telephone Number:_____

Email:_____

Please mail, FAX or drop off this form to:

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

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

Please call 983-5541 with special care requirements.