

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI

### RESOLUTION 2020-14

#### In Support of US-12/M-17 (Wiard to I-94) Improvements

WHEREAS, US-12/M-17 is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) throughout its entire length between Wiard Road and Interstate 94 (I-94) within the Charter Township of Ypsilanti; and

WHEREAS, this section of US-12 connects to other roadways owned by MDOT such as the Ecorse Ave (M-17); and

WHEREAS, other roadways are located in the MDOT Right-of-Way such as Service Drive are under the jurisdiction of the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) as well as other roads that intersect with both US-12 and M-17; and

WHEREAS, the WCRC is assisting the Township by administering funds dedicated to improving this corridor including but not limited to road reconfiguration, lighting, landscaping, and signage enhancements spent on MDOT trunkline and;

WHEREAS, the WCRC engaged a consulting firm, OHM Advisors, to study various options to assess the existing road configuration and assess feasibility to utilize budgeted funds specifically earmarked for this section of MDOT trunkline. The focus of these funds is to promote overall safety, pedestrian connectivity and improved traffic patterns while also enhancing aesthetics and facilitate regional wayfinding.

WHEREAS, the study focused on key goals which include;

1. Slower speeds, especially EB US-12 traffic
2. Minimize cut through traffic in the West Willow Sub from US-12 to Wiard Road
3. Add safety improvements for motorists via streetlights, new pavement markings, and by removing freeway look to US-12 by removing the grade separation bridge and ramp type merge lanes that give the area a freeway feel
4. Add safety improvements for pedestrians by adding sidewalk connectivity and designated lighted road/pedestrian crossing locations
5. Add beautification elements via landscaping and mast arm traffic signals
6. Promote better direction for the motorists by adding wayfinding signs

WHEREAS, a concept figure (Attached) was developed as a basis of design to submit with the study for MDOT review; and

WHEREAS, the project is incorporating improvements being coordinated with DTE that are already under way which include new streetlights along US-12 from Wiard Road to the Washtenaw County line (Phase 1) and along EB and WB US-12 from the end of the I-94 ramps to Wiard Road (Phase 2). Additional Lights are also planned along Ecorse Road from US-12 to Ford Blvd, and along the WB ramp from US-12 to Ecorse Road (Phase 2).

WHEREAS, the concept developed proposes sections of existing roadway will be removed in order to simplify the roadway. These removal sections include:

1. The Dorset connection from south of Ecorse Road to EB US-12
2. The EB Ecorse bridge and ramp to EB US-12
3. The Onandaga connector between EB US-12 and WB US-12

WHEREAS, new sections of roadway are planned to be constructed which include

1. A connector from Ecorse Road to WB and EB US-12
2. Two new boulevard style crossovers to be added, one from EB US-12 to WB US-12, and the other from WB US-12 to EB US-12
3. New road connection from WB US-12 to Ecorse Road

WHEREAS, new traffic signals are being planned in the design which include four (4) intersection traffic signals with mast arm improvements These include improvements at:

1. Intersection of Ford Blvd and Ecorse Road

2. Intersection of Ecorse Road and WB US-12, Ecorse Road and EB US-12 (considered one traffic signal)
3. Intersection of Crossover EB/WB US-12 and WB US-12 if warranted and approved by MDOT
4. Intersection of US-12 and Wiard Road
5. Other signals as warranted and approved by MDOT

WHEREAS pedestrian facilities are being planned which include new sidewalk to help better control pedestrian traffic. Improvements include:

1. New sidewalk to be placed along the south side of the I-94 Service Drive from Dorset St to Hudson St
2. New sidewalk crossing of US-12 at the intersection of Ecorse Road and connectivity to Ford Blvd via new sidewalk along the west side of the Ecorse connector to Ford Blvd. The sidewalk will continue west on the south side of Ecorse Road to Hayes St.

WHEREAS, landscaping is planned in the vicinity of the Ecorse/US-12 intersection area, and near Wiard Road and at various places along the US-12 project area; and

WHEREAS, maintenance of this landscaping will be the responsibility of the Township; and

WHEREAS, new wayfinding signs will be placed along the US-12 and Ecorse roadways possibly highlighting ACM, Willow Airport, Metro Airport, Ann Arbor, Depot Town pending approval from MDOT; and

WHEREAS, maintenance of wayfinding signs will be the responsibility of the Township; and

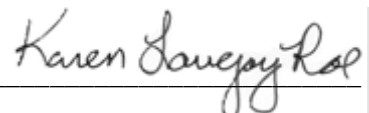
WHEREAS, new roadway striping along US-12 from the end of the I-94 Ramps to Wiard Road (possibly to Ecorse Road/ County Line); and

WHEREAS, the preliminary study and geometrics provided have been considered by the Township and adjacent neighborhoods and presentations were made with opportunities for comment on the following dates:

1. Oct. 4, 2019 – Brainstorming meeting with Stakeholders to come up with concepts.
2. Oct. 29, 2019 – Public meeting to present three concepts (5-lane hwy with signals, 4-lane blvd with signals, 4-lane blvd with roundabouts).
3. Dec. 9, 2019 – Update meeting with Stakeholders to present Preferred Alternative (variation on 4-lane blvd with signals).
4. Dec. 12, 2019 – Public meeting to present Preferred Alternative.
5. Several other meetings with individuals and the Township to explain, modify and adjust the Preferred Alternative to its current as depicted in the attached concept figure (attached).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Township of Ypsilanti hereby asks MDOT to consider the preliminary study, traffic model prepared by OHM and allow for these improvements to US-12 / M-17 contemplated therein, with any such minor refinements deemed necessary by MDOT staff, WCRC or Township, including any necessary striping, signage or signal modifications, using funds dedicated to improving this corridor and section of roadway and for these improvements to be set forth in subsequent contract documents.

I, Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan hereby certify the above resolution is a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 2020-14 approved by the Charter Township of Ypsilanti, Board of Trustees assembled at a Regular Meeting held on July 21, 2020.



Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk  
Charter Township of Ypsilanti