



August 1, 2024

RE: Meridian Township Local Roads Program – Dobie Cir is being added to the 2024 Program

Dear Resident:

The Township is currently ahead of schedule for the 2024 Local Roads Program. To make use of the remaining construction season, we are moving some of the 2025 roads up to 2024. Dobie Cir is one of the roads we have identified that can be moved up to 2024.

Concrete work on Dobie Cir will occur in mid- to late-August depending on weather conditions. The paving work will occur in September and/or October. For the most current schedule, please visit the following link, then click on the link for the “2024 Local Roads Program (Curb & Gutter)” webpage, then click on the blue “Construction Updates” button: www.meridian.mi.us/TownshipProjects.

Prior to the paving work beginning, damaged or settled sections of curb and gutter, that are preventing proper road drainage, will be replaced. The Township will not add additional curb and gutter for replacement. The Township does not replace curb and gutter for aesthetic purposes. Additionally, any sidewalks crossing the listed streets will be upgraded according to the current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, as necessary. Generally, this includes lowering existing sidewalk ramps to reduce the ramp slopes, realigning existing ramps for better directional guidance at the crossing, or adding new ramps to provide an accessible crossing.

Pink paint will be used to mark concrete (curb/sidewalk) for replacement in advance of the concrete contractor mobilizing to each area. **If you have sprinklers, invisible fence, lighting, landscaping, or any other personal property within approximately 10 feet of any concrete that is marked for replacement, it is recommended that you move these items away from the indicated work so that they are not damaged by the project.** Although every effort will be made to avoid damage to personal property items adjacent to the concrete, such as sprinklers, the contractor **does not replace or relocate these items** other than setting them back in, or as close as possible to, their original locations. Any items located between the curb and sidewalk are in the public road right-of-way (ROW), not on private property. **The ROW typically extends 33-feet from the road centerline, ending just on the house-side of the sidewalk. Placement of items, such as those listed above, in the ROW is subject to permitting and approval by the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD). Damage to any items placed in the ROW without proper permits from the ICRD will not be reimbursed or replaced by Meridian Township.**

The asphalt work will be the last step, after most of the concrete replacements are finished. As with all of the other construction work, the paving will not take place on all streets at once. The paving contractor will move neighborhood to neighborhood, completing groups of streets at a time. A second notice will be sent out to provide additional details about the paving process.

Funding for this project comes from the Meridian Township Street Improvement Bond, as part of the Township’s 10-year effort to bring all of the local roads in Meridian up to a ‘good’ rating. To assist with the local road program, Meridian Township has hired **Abonmarche** to provide field inspection and day-to-day oversight of the milling and paving work. A representative from **Abonmarche** will be onsite during the road construction to ensure a quality product for all Township residents.

The paving contractor for this project is **Michigan Paving & Materials Company**, a quality asphalt company based in the Lansing area. They have completed many successful projects for Meridian Township and ICRD.

The concrete contractor for this project is **Lopez Concrete Construction, LLC**, a quality concrete company based in the Lansing area. They have successfully completed numerous contracts with Meridian Township.

While representatives for Abonmarche, Michigan Paving & Materials Company, and Lopez Concrete will be onsite during construction, **please submit any questions or concerns to localroads@meridian.mi.us. Although field representatives are able to answer questions, they are not permitted to authorize changes to the plans or add additional work.**

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We sincerely apologize in advance for any inconvenience caused during construction, and we truly appreciate your patience and understanding while we work to improve your neighborhood and our entire community.



ADDITIONAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

SEWER PIPES

Due to the fact that your road is being resurfaced this year, we recommend giving consideration to your sewer line, specifically the portion that extends under the road. These are frequently overlooked by homeowners, being out-of-sight and out-of-mind, but when they fail, they can be incredibly expensive to repair.

Sewer pipeline inspection is a relatively cheap and very effective means to assess the condition of the pipe between your house and the public sewer main, typically located under the road. The equipment and expertise required to do this work is widespread, with numerous local contractors available.

The benefit of performing such an inspection now lies in the potential cost to repair a pipe under the road. While Meridian Township is responsible for the large public sewer main, the individual house services, which run between the public main and each house, are the responsibility of the homeowner. Under normal circumstances, if a house service breaks under the road, the homeowner is responsible not only for the cost of the pipe repair, but also the cost to repair the asphalt road where it is disturbed.

However, if a pipe defect under the road is identified now, the homeowner has the option of making the repair in conjunction with the road resurfacing. This means that the homeowner would only be responsible for the cost to replace the pipe, and not the cost to replace the asphalt.

Please note, this is only a recommendation – you are not required to take any action at this point. However, if you have had previous issues with your sewer, then we strongly urge you to consider having your line inspected. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department of Public Works (contact information above).

TREE TRIMMING

Removal of the existing roadway asphalt is accomplished by cold milling, a process that grinds the asphalt into relatively small pieces (“millings”) for transport away from the construction site. The milling machine (“mill”) sits on the asphalt surface and feeds the resultant millings into a separate dump truck. While in operation, the total height of the mill can reach up to 15 feet above the existing roadway.

Although contractors attempt to maneuver around vertical obstacles, one of the most common and unavoidable challenges are trees that have grown over the roadway. While the mill operators have the ability to make minor adjustments to the mill height and truck placement, the mill still must pass under these trees in order to effectively and thoroughly remove all of the asphalt. In areas where branches hang within 15 feet of the road surface, this can result in tree limbs inadvertently being damaged or removed by the milling process.

Typically, only minor branches and foliage are disturbed, and the long-term health of the tree is not impacted. However, if there are trees in front of your house that have limbs extending over the road (within approximately 15 feet vertically of the road surface) and you are concerned about potential damage, please take the opportunity to perform any tree trimming prior to the start of the asphalt work.

Please note, this recommendation only applies if there are tree limbs within approximately 15 feet vertically of the road surface in front of your house **and** you are concerned about potential damage. However, you are not required to take any action at this point. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department of Public Works (contact information above).



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Details related to the paving process are included below. After any necessary concrete replacement (curb and gutter/sidewalk ramps) is completed, the asphalt paving activity will generally proceed as follows:

1. Excavating around and lowering all of the manhole structures within the roadway;
2. Milling (grinding) off all of the existing asphalt;
3. Preparation (grading & compacting) of the gravel road base;
4. Paving the first layer of new asphalt;
5. Paving the top and final layer of new asphalt;
6. Excavation around and raising all of the manholes structures within the roadway.

Depending on the weather, and how many streets are being done at once, there may be a period of inactivity between some of these steps of up to 10 days. However, the whole process is usually continuous until the asphalt is placed.

Mail delivery will not be interrupted at any time. All roads will be swept to remove debris after all work is completed.

The milling (i.e. removal of the old asphalt) typically moves past a given driveway in approximately 10 minutes, after which there is a rough gravel surface that you can drive on. The milling and paving work will be completed one lane at a time, thus the streets will be usable on at least one side at almost all times. An entire street is normally milled in one (1) day. Once the milling is finished, the first layer of new asphalt will be placed within 10 days.

Traffic will be able to get to and from their destinations at almost all times depending on exactly where work is occurring at the given time. However, immediately after the asphalt is placed there will be a short period, typically around one (1) hour, while the asphalt is compacted and allowed to cool, and you will be asked not to drive across. In this instance, you will need to park on a street that does not have asphalt cooling and walk to your home.

Please do not go around barricades and traffic control personnel – it is very important to protect the new asphalt during this cooling period. If there are any issues involving access, there will always be an inspector onsite from Abonmarche, typically in a truck with the company name and logo on it, who can assist you. Please just approach the inspector and let them know, and they can help you navigate the site.

Be advised: new asphalt is VERY HOT when first placed. This is why it must cool prior to vehicles being allowed on the new surface. Additionally, it is potentially dangerous for humans and animals to walk on the new surface before it cools sufficiently. While paving work is taking place, please ask one of the nearby construction workers before walking or driving on the new asphalt. This is for your own safety as well as for the integrity of the new road.

Please do not park any vehicles on or along the roadway on the days your street is to be milled or resurfaced. Your street may have to be re-scheduled later if parked vehicles block the process. **To be assured of not holding up**

progress, please avoid parking any vehicles on all of the listed streets between the date of this letter and the completion of resurfacing.

The paving contractor for this project is Michigan Paving & Materials Company, a quality asphalt company based in the Lansing area. They have had numerous contracts with Meridian Township and the Ingham County Road Department.

While representatives for Abonmarche and Michigan Paving & Materials Company will be onsite during construction, **please submit any questions or concerns to localroads@meridian.mi.us. Although field representatives are able to answer questions, they are not permitted to authorize changes to the plans or add additional work.**

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