



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

301 E. Huron Street, P.O. Box 8647

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8647

Phone: 734.794.6410

a2gov.org

Printed on recycled paper

December 11, 2018

Re: Northside STEAM Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Project
Design Changes on Traver and John A Woods
File No: 2018-024

Dear property owner or resident:

On December 3, 2018, City Council voted to postpone the vote on Resolution 2 for the Northside STEAM SRTS Sidewalk Special Assessment Project until December 17, 2018. Since that time, staff has further considered resident concerns regarding impacts on vegetation, and has made some changes to the design to address these issues.

Traver Street will be narrowed to 18 feet from John A Woods to the Northside STEAM property line, which will create enough space to construct the new sidewalk in this area that was formerly pavement. This greatly reduces the impacts to trees and vegetation, and reduces the need to construct retaining walls and obtain temporary grading permits. In this revised design, the proposed 8-foot wide sidewalk will be located immediately behind the back of curb, thus eliminating most of the grading challenges. Approximately ten parking spots will remain near the intersection of Traver and Barton for student drop-off/pickup, but the crosswalk will incorporate a new bump-out, allowing better visibility of pedestrians and preventing parking too close to the crosswalk.

On John A Woods, staff narrowed part of the street by relocating the curb so that four landmark Black Walnut trees could be preserved while still allowing enough space for snow storage between the back of curb and the new sidewalk. Finally, the intersection of John A Woods and Traver was improved for safety utilizing bump-outs, geometric changes that allow for a more perpendicular intersection, and relocation of the crosswalk for better sight distance for pedestrians and vehicles.

The changes being made to the plans have the net effect of reducing the number of trees to be removed from 39 to 11, and eliminates the impacts on landmark trees (with the exception of two landmark trees that require removal due to their present condition and proximity to the travelling lane).

These changes have been made while still keeping the estimated special assessment to property owners at approximately \$43/ft. More accurate assessment costs would be available after MDOT bids the project and the assessment roll is provided for City Council's approval at Resolution 4. In the meantime, City

Council is scheduled to vote on Resolution 2 at the December 17, 2018 City Council Meeting, which would allow staff to submit final plans to MDOT for review and bid advertisement.

Please find the referenced design changes in the enclosed drawings, and feel free to call or email me at (734) 794-6410 ex 43678 or jallen2@a2gov.org with any questions. These designs were also emailed to the project distribution list so owners can zoom into their parcels for greater detail. Please let me know if you would like to be added to the project e-mail list. For background information on the project, past meetings, submittals, and costs, please visit the project website at www.a2gov.org/STEAM.

Very truly yours,
City of Ann Arbor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jane Allen", written in a cursive style.

Jane Allen, P.E.
Project Manager

JKA (S:\Engineering\General\2018-024 Northside STEAM SRTS Sidewalk Gaps\18- Correspondance Outside\After Dec. 3 Council Meeting and Friday Dec 7 Meeting\Design Changes Notification Letter 12.11.18.docx)

cc: File