



## MEETING AGENDA

### Northside STEAM Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Project

Thursday October 4, 2018

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Room at the Ann Arbor STEAM at Northside School, 912 Barton Dr, Ann Arbor

- Welcome, Introductions (5 mins)
- MDOT Demographic Data Collecting (5min)
- Civil Discourse Ground Rules (5 min)
- Meeting Purpose (5 mins)
- Project Purpose (5 mins)
- Project Background (10 mins)
- Impacts: Temporary Grading Permits and Special Assessments (20 mins)
- Question and Answer (35 mins)

#### QUESTIONS?

Contact Project Manager Jane Allen  
via email [JAllen2@a2gov.org](mailto:JAllen2@a2gov.org)  
or call 734-794-6410 ext. 43678

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What has changed since the Administrative Hearing held June 26, 2018?**

Based on feedback from the Administrative Hearing, City Staff and the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Committee met to reduce the project limits, thus reducing the individual costs to affected property owners. Resulting from the meeting, Apple Street and Pear Street were removed from the Project Limits and the Preliminary Special Assessment Cost was reduced from \$89/ft to \$48/ft of frontage foot of individual parcel.

### **Will trees be clear-cut for the placement of the proposed sidewalk?**

City Staff is working very hard to save all the trees in this project. We have moved the proposed path of the sidewalk around trees and landscaping, and in some cases, have relocated the street's curb line to avoid tree removals. Letters were sent to all 26 property-owners in the Special Assessment District to explain the impacts of the sidewalk location, when possible, property owners have been engaged in selecting the best sidewalk location. In some cases where a tree removal is still included as part of the project, it was the result of property owner preference for tree removal.

### **Will parking be removed for the placement of the proposed sidewalk?**

Feedback Forms were provided at the Administrative Hearing June 26, 2018 and online at [www.a2gov.org/STEAM](http://www.a2gov.org/STEAM) to comment on the preference between losing on-street parking vs. placing the proposed sidewalk behind the existing curb. On Traver Street, where curb relocation and road narrowing are proposed, 100% of feedback received from property owners indicated support the proposed design. Therefore, our current design will eliminate some on-street parking on Traver St between John A Woods and Barton Dr.

### **When will the sidewalks be constructed?**

We are currently on schedule for construction bids to be opened on March 1, 2019. Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2019 (Mid-April) and expected to be complete by Labor Day (September 2, 2019).

### **How much will my assessment be?**

Preliminary Engineer's Opinion of Costs Estimate show a cost per linear foot of frontage of \$48/ft. Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Grant is contributing over \$400,000 to the construction costs. Assessable costs to residents include only the actual sidewalk installation items, e.g., Mobilization, Grading, Base, Concrete, and Restoration.

### **How wide is my frontage?**

The Assessor's Office has parcel frontage and lot dimensions, which are typically represented on plat maps or described in specific legal descriptions. Preliminary frontages have been collected from these sources for each of the 26 parcels involved in the Special Assessment. Visit [bsaonline.com](http://bsaonline.com) for your information.

### **How long do I have to pay off the assessment?**

Upon confirmation of any special assessment roll, City Council shall determine the number of installments in which the assessments may be paid. Special assessments shall become payable at a time to be fixed by City Council resolution. The whole of any special assessment, or one or more full installments of it, may be paid within the first 30 days after confirmation of the roll, without penalty or interest.

Special assessments may be payable in installments according to dollar amount thresholds established by City Code. The typical number and schedule of installments in which each assessment is payable, based on the calculated amount at the time of the assessment, are provided in the Agenda and FAQ's for the Administrative Hearing held June 26, 2018 at [www.a2gov.org/STEAM](http://www.a2gov.org/STEAM). This table currently shows a minimum of \$1200/year.

### **How do I express my opinions about the special assessment?**

A formal public hearing will be scheduled at a regular City Council meeting. Notices of the public hearing are sent by mail to each owner of the property subject to assessment at least 10 days prior to the hearing. Any member of the public is welcome to speak about the project to City Council at this hearing. Any person aggrieved by the special assessment roll or the necessity of the improvement may file objections to the roll in writing with the Clerk prior to the close of the public hearing. The written objections shall specify in what respect the person believes they are aggrieved. No original assessment roll shall be confirmed except by the affirmative vote of the Council if prior to the confirmation written objections to the proposed improvement have been filed by the owners of property which will be required to bear over 50% of the amount of the special assessment. In addition to a protest at the Public Hearing, a special assessment can be appealed to the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 35 days of the confirmation of the special assessment roll if the assessment was protested at the public hearing held for the purpose of confirming the roll.

### **Which tax bill will the first installment of the assessment be on?**

The due date of the first installment for the special assessment is typically the first July (Summer) bill after the Council's resolution confirming the special assessment roll. Based on the anticipated project schedule, we expect the first installment of the special assessment to be billed in summer 2019 for this project. . If the special assessment is divided into more than one installment, the second and subsequent installments are transferred, due and payable on the July (Summer) tax bill in each succeeding year following the year in which the first installment was due and payable, which are subject to interest provisions.