

Memorandum

Date: March 9, 2011
To: Members of the Monroe Downtown Development Authority
From: Andrea Jones, Executive Director
Re: March Executive Director Report

Excerpts of projects listed in Patrick Lewis' Engineering Status Report dated March 1st that are within the DDA district:

2010-11 WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS:

As a part of the ARRA Recovery Zone Bond program, the Water Department is slated to receive \$5.7 million in funding to complete the components of the reliability study, as well as a few other needs. The list of project locations includes the following:

- F: South Monroe Street – Fourth Street to Jones Avenue
- K: South Monroe Street – Fourth to River
- O: East Elm Avenue – Macomb to Dixie

... Design work is underway on Divisions F and L, and should be completed within the next 2-3 weeks. Drawing cleanup is completed on Divisions K and N, and is underway on Division M. Survey work is underway on Division O, and should be completed by the end of the month. We intend to award the remaining Divisions, except possible P, as change orders to the previous contracts, as is determined in the best interest of the City. We will likely be ready to award Divisions F and L at the April 4 City Council meeting.

EAST ELM RESURFACING – MONROE TO DIXIE:

This project is intended to be our main 2011 Federal Aid project, and will include 3" milling and resurfacing, plus minor spot curb / driveway replacement. The project package has been submitted to MDOT for review and this project will tentatively be placed on the May MDOT bid letting, placing construction in July and August.

MACOMB STREET BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT:

This project was funded through the 2009 voter-approved 20-year, 0.52-mil bond issue, and is intended for construction in 2012, or possibly commencing Fall 2011. The design contract was awarded at the February 22 meeting, and the kickoff meeting was held February 28. The completion date for the design is July 31.

WEST FRONT STREET RECONSTRUCTION - HARRISON TO MONROE:

This project will be our second 2011 Federal Aid project, provided that the East Elm Avenue project does not bid substantially over budget. If sufficient funding allows, we will completely rebuild the existing brick paver base with new concrete, if not, we will spot rebuild and resurface the roadway.

FISH PASSAGE GRANT PROJECT - RIVER RAISIN:

This project, which is being largely funded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, is designed to remediate up to four of the low-head dams on the River Raisin by constructing 5 rock ramps or notches at each one to allow for fish migration upstream. The Engineering Department is working with the Water and Wastewater Director and consultant for design, and the Engineering Department will administer the construction contract, which is intended for letting in July or August, with construction this Fall.

DOWNTOWN BRICK PAVER REPLACEMENT:

As in 2010, the Engineering Department plans to replace some sidewalk corners in the downtown area where the brick pavers have reached the end of their life span. These areas will be replaced with a mixture of stamped concrete and standard grey along the building faces. There are five locations that will be considered this year, three corners at Front /Monroe and two locations south of the Monroe Street Bridge. All will be delayed until after water main replacement in the area is completed, but should be undertaken in 2011.

2011 SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECTS:

The following sanitary sewer rehabilitation (relining) projects were funded through the 2011-12 Capital Improvements Program and are planned for 2011 work:

- West Front Street - Harrison to Macomb
- Maple Avenue - Lorain to Scottwood
- Reisig Street -Seventh to Eighth
- Sanitary Sewer behind Dam #2 in River Raisin
- Sanitary Sewer behind Dam #6 in River Raisin

The City will either package these for bidding in a separate 2011 contract, or will add these as a change order to the 2010 program, depending on which appears most advantageous to the City.

City Council action on 114 and 116 West Front Street for an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Tax Exemption or demolition has been postponed to their April 4, 2011 meeting.

I will be presenting the DDA budget to City Council during their Budget Work Sessions that will be scheduled for the end of March.

A Public Hearing and Resolution for the adoption of a Brownfield Plan for Site No. 23 at 78-84 West Front Street, recently purchased by Ken Calender, and a Public Hearing and Resolution for Obsolete Property Rehabilitation for the same property, will be on the March 21, 2011 City Council Agenda.

I attended a meeting of the Heritage Trail Committee. They are discussing wayfinding signage for the trail and I gave input on our wayfinding project.

The Promotion Committee reviewed a request for the DDA to participate in sponsoring a Monroe campaign for Pure Michigan. There will be a presentation with further details at the April Promotion Committee meeting.

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I have begun sorting through the office, throwing out items we do not need to keep and packing other items that we don't need right now. I have 650 tote bags left and have had several businesses state interest in those.

Status for the projects that received the Rental Rehab Grant through the MEDC:

118 E. Front St.-2 units-renovation is complete; administrative tasks being completed

43 S. Monroe St.-3 units-renovation almost completed; administrative tasks being worked on

50 S. Monroe St.-1 unit-renovation work is underway

123 E. Front St.-3 units-seeking project financing

Thank you.