

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION  
VW AVENUE RESURFACING PROJECT  
18<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO PORTAGE ROAD**

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP HALL  
APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2011  
6:30 P.M.**

**REPRESENTED BY:**

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION (269) 381-3171**

Kent L. McCauley, Chairman  
Ken Oscarson, Vice Chairman  
Jeffrie M Maddox, Commissioner  
Dennis J. Berkebile, Commissioner  
Dan Moyle, Commissioner  
Joanna Johnson, Managing Director  
Tom J. Hohm, Chief Engineer  
John Byrnes, Traffic Services Director  
Paul Spitzley, Project Engineer

## VW Avenue Resurfacing Project Project Summary

### Project Limits

VW Avenue from 18<sup>th</sup> Street to Portage Road in Schoolcraft Township

### Purpose and Need

The Kalamazoo County Road Commission applied for the High Risk Rural Road (HRRR) funds for this project in 2009. The Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study's Technical Committee and Policy Committee supported the project application. HRRR is a funding category that was established by federal legislation with a goal of reducing severe crashes in the rural area.

The VW Avenue road segment is a rural major collector that carries 4,000 vehicles per day. To the east, the roadway provides access to schools, business parks, and medical facilities, and is a gateway to developing commercial and industrial areas of Vicksburg. To the west, the roadway provides access to golf courses, the Schoolcraft High School, and commercial and industrial areas of Schoolcraft. The roadway is used as an access to the Village of Schoolcraft, Vicksburg, and to US-131.

The roadway is 22 feet wide with little to no shoulder width. The current roadway does not meet the standard of a rural major collector roadway with a traffic volume of 4,000 vehicles per day. Currently, there are a high number of run off the roadway type of crashes that are correctable with an adequate shoulder.

The pavement condition is good to poor. Kalamazoo County Road Commission crews have patched sections of the roadway and a surface seal was applied several years ago. The placement of a new surface on this roadway will provide needed structural improvement to the roadway.

### Project Summary

The VW Avenue Resurfacing Project will begin just to the east of the 18<sup>th</sup> Street intersection and continue east to just prior to the Portage Road intersection. The total distance of the project is approximately 0.97 miles. Throughout the length of the project the roadway will be trenched, new base materials installed along the widened shoulders and the entire roadway will be resurfaced with hot mix asphalt to allow for paved and gravel shoulders. The Contractor will also construct drainage improvements including driveway culverts, ditching, and the replacement of the Follmer Drain Culvert to accommodate the new roadway.

The proposed roadway will provide for 12' wide traffic lanes, 3' paved shoulders, and 5' gravel shoulders. The vertical alignment of the roadway will remain generally intact. The intersections of VW Avenue at 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Portage Road will not be reconstructed in this project. Drainage improvements including culvert replacement and roadside ditching will be implemented as needed.

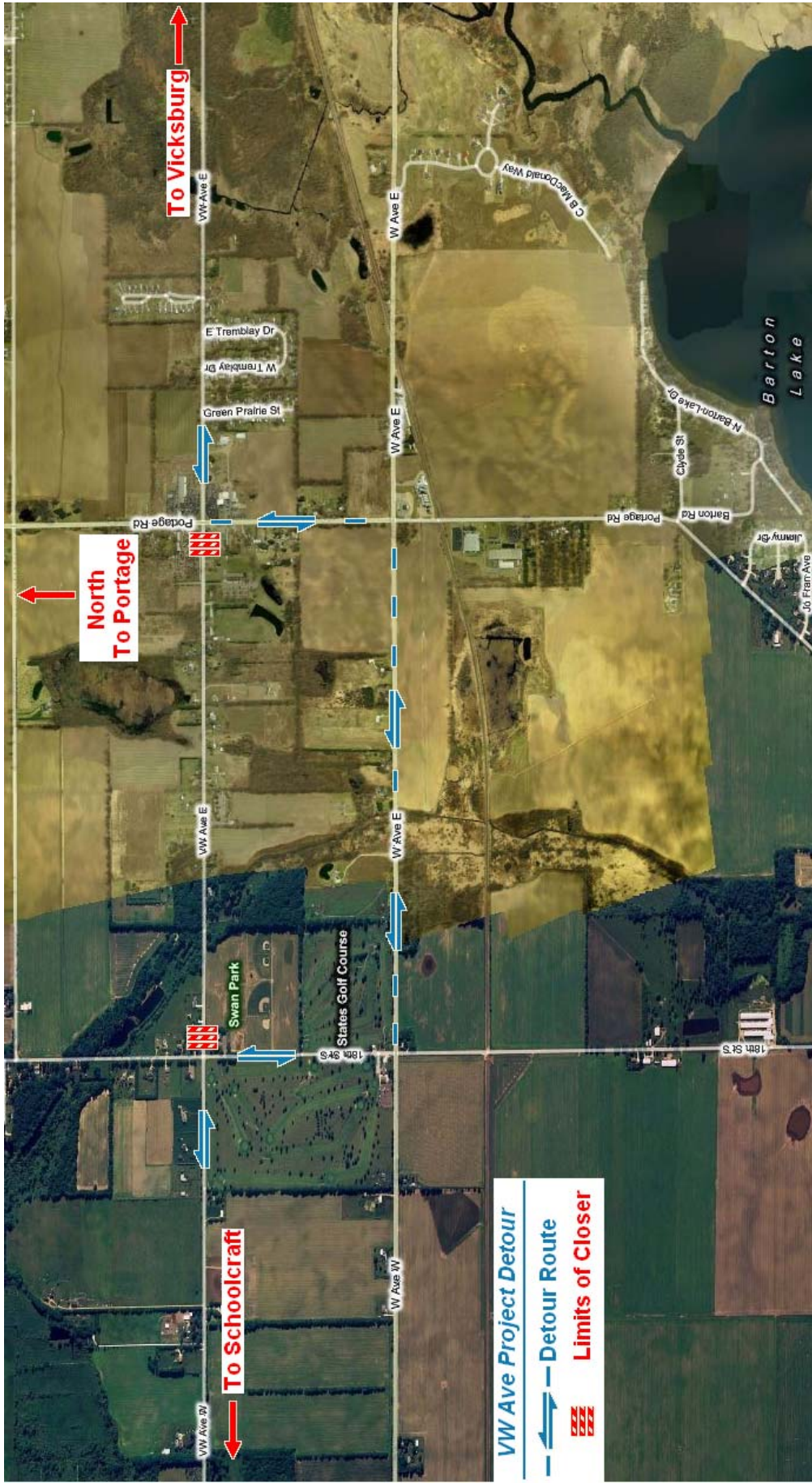
The Contractor will grade the side slopes to provide drainage for the roadway. The ditching for this project will generally be 1' to 2' deep from the shoulder edge, with 1 on 3 fore slopes and 1 on 3 back slopes. By reducing ditch depths, and providing steeper back slopes, the grading limits and tree removals can be reduced. The original design plans were developed with the goal of preserving trees. However, there are certain instances where tree removals are unavoidable. Trees within the clear zone of the roadway **OR** within the grading limits will be removed to provide the necessary safe clear area next to the roadway. The Kalamazoo County Road Commission has a tree replacement program available to the property owners along this project. The planned removals are shown on the individual tree removal details mailed to each effected property owner.

The utility service providers will be working within the project limits to relocate their underground facilities. This work involves moving specific buried main lines by method of direction drill and some excavation. Consumers Energy will upgrade high pressure regulators that connect to the residents along the project length. AT&T will upgrade their services that connect to residents along this portion of VW Avenue.

The speed limit of the roadway will not change as a result of this project. As a result of this work the roadway should afford a greater degree of safety as the shoulder will allow for some recovery of an errant vehicle.

### **Project Schedule**

The Kalamazoo County Road Commission anticipates relocation of services beginning in May. The beginning of construction is scheduled for July 5<sup>th</sup>. The project is to be completed by September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The roadway will be closed to through traffic over the duration of the project. During the project, traffic will be detoured to 18<sup>th</sup> Street, to W Avenue, and to Portage Road (as shown in the attached map). All homeowners on this section of VW Avenue, emergency vehicles, and garbage pickup services will have access to each home throughout construction. All mailboxes will be relocated to a central location approved by the Postal Service prior to construction. Once the construction is near completion each mailbox will be installed, by the Contractor, back at its respective location with a new post.



**To Vicksburg**

**North  
To Portage**

**To Schoolcraft**