



CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

750 LAKESIDE DRIVE SE-EAST GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49506

April 23, 2025

Safe Routes to School Program Update

Dear East Grand Rapids Residents:

In December of 2024 the city sent an information and engagement opportunity communication to all residents on the south side of Reeds Lake Blvd from Manhattan Road to El Centro. The purpose of the continued engagement was to address the initial scope of the conceptual pedestrian safety improvements related to the Safe Routes to School Program (a federal grant program administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) specifically related to a 10-foot shared use path. The city was able to meet with or communicate with all residents along this corridor.

The consensus from the engagement was that residents were generally favorable to an option consisting of a 5-foot traditional concrete sidewalk located within 2-3 feet or closer to the back of curb (all improvements in public right-of-way). While the city continues to have dialogue with MDOT, with modified schedules related to their operation, and what parameters the city can work with, there will be no construction by the city for any advance construction in the 2025 season. Therefore, there will be no authorization request before the City Commission for consideration at this time.

Based on the resident engagement with the city to-date, the city will pursue the option to advance construct/receive authorization to construct a 5-foot concrete sidewalk related to the overall project as noted. When more information related to this project is known, additional communication will be sent to all residents.

For conceptual layout/designs, prior notices, and additional information, please scan the QR Code below or visit the city construction updates page by going to the city website home page www.eastgrmi.gov, and selecting the "construction updates" icon at the bottom of the page and then scrolling down to "Safe Routes to School" project or see the end of this document.



For any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please contact via email at dlafave@eastgrmi.gov or call me at 616-940-4817.

Stay tuned for additional information in the future. Have a wonderful spring and summer!

Respectfully,

Doug La Fave
Deputy City Manager/Director of Public Works