



## PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 21, 2015



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### **RCOC PLACES ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES AT NAPIER/10 MILE RD INTERSECTION; MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION SLATED FOR 2017**

**Beverly Hills, MI**—The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) continues to work with the City of Novi and Lyon Township to address traffic-safety concerns at the Napier/10 Mile intersection.

Reconstruction of the intersection is scheduled for 2017. The estimated \$4 million dollar project will involve the following:

- Installation of a traffic signal or roundabout
- Cutting the hill on 10 Mile Road to the west of the intersection (to improve sight distance)
- Acquisition of right of way to properly configure and expand the intersection (necessary for either a traffic signalized intersection or roundabout)
- Construction of left-turn lanes at intersection
- Relocation of utilities
- Mitigation of wetlands
- Paving Napier Road from 9 Mile Road to 10 Mile Road
- Design and construction engineering work

“Simply installing a traffic signal without cutting the hill and expanding the intersection would create problems,” RCOC Managing Director Dennis Kolar said. He noted traffic approaching the intersection from the west would not be able to see the traffic signal until just before arriving at the intersection, meaning drivers may come over the hill and be unable to stop for cars stopped at the traffic signal.

“Earlier this year, RCOC worked with the city and township on financing and installing two flashing lights at the intersection as a temporary measure,” Kolar added. “Oakland County has the lowest traffic fatality rate in the state and among the lowest rates in the country, and safety remains our top priority.”

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Currently, the Napier/10 Mile intersection ranks 116<sup>th</sup> among intersections under RCOC jurisdiction based on crash rates. There have been no fatalities at this intersection in recent years according to crash records.

RCOC recently met with representatives from the state, county and local government to identify other steps that can be taken at the intersection prior to the 2017 project. Several steps agreed to include:

- Additional signs on Napier Road alerting motorists to stop at 10 Mile (already added)
- Applying reflective strips to stop signs on Napier (already added)
- The paved Napier Road approach to the 10 Mile intersection just south of 10 Mile will be swept on a routine basis, providing better traction for motorists
- Additional signs will be installed on 10 Mile Road warning of the upcoming intersection.

“We have many intersections in need of improvement across the county. We are fortunate that funding could be secured to make this a 2017 project,” Kolar stated. “The latest road-funding bill passed in Lansing does not provide any new funding for RCOC until 2017, and full funding does not occur until 2021. In the meantime, we will continue to closely monitor this intersection and work with the local communities on interim solutions.”

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