



US-23 Flex Route Phase 2 Operational and Environmental Study

Virtual Public Meeting

July 27, 2020

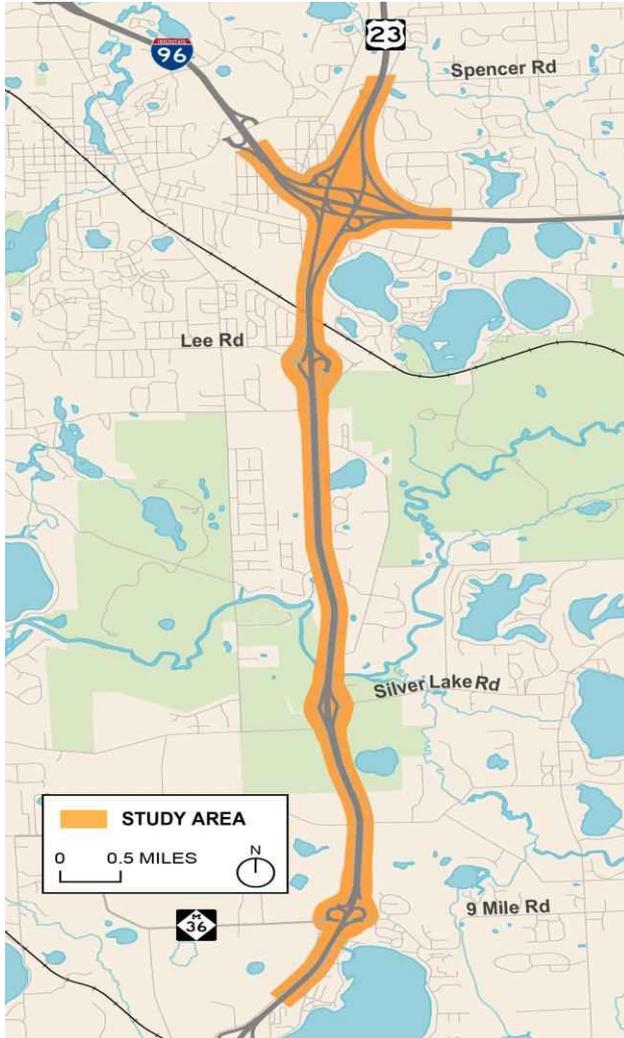
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. US-23 Flex Route Phase I
3. Study Overview
4. Existing and Future Conditions
5. Flex Route Extension
6. Interchange Alternatives
7. Environmental Impacts
8. Next Steps
9. Questions?
10. Contact Us



FlexRoute23

Introduction



US-23 Flex Route

- Phase 1
 - M-14 to south of M-36 (9 Mile Road)
 - Opened to Traffic in 2018
- Phase 2
 - M-36 to I-96/US-23 interchange
 - Rebuilding Michigan Bond Program
- Operational and Environmental Study
 - Traffic and operational analysis
 - Road and bridge scoping
 - Environmental surveys
 - NEPA documentation

US-23 Flex Route Phase I

- Overall Improvement in Travel Time and Reliability
 - Travel Time
 - Planning Time
 - Speed
 - Crashes
- SB saw the greatest improvement
- NB will benefit from the extension to I-96
- MSU Study
 - Performance
 - Safety Impacts



Study Overview

Purpose of the study is to focus on:

- Traffic Safety
- Operational Needs
- Directional Weekday (Monday – Friday) Peak Period Congestion
- Infrastructure Condition

Goal is to: Develop Safe, Efficient, Sustainable Transportation

Improvements to assure that the corridor will meet current and future highway operations using state-of-the-art traffic control measures along with improved infrastructure.

Study Overview

Need is to focus on:

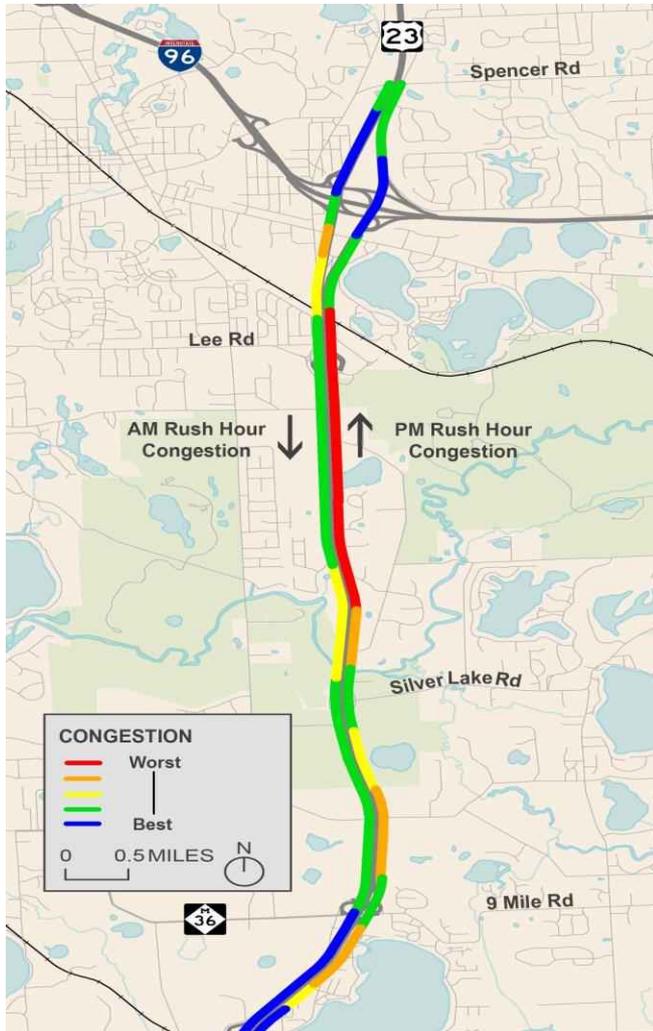
- Economic feasibility regarding restricted funding;
- Pavement condition;
- Directional weekday (Monday – Friday) peak period congestion;
- On-ramps that are short to adequately accelerate and merge into traffic;
- Traffic operations at M-36, Silver Lake and I-96 interchanges;
- High crash segments throughout the corridor;
- Incident management areas to safely clear and investigate accidents; and
- Road and bridge maintenance.

Study Overview

The Study includes:

- Road and bridge scoping to extend the US-23 Flex Route to I-96;
- Recommended alternatives at the M-36 and Silver Lake Road interchanges;
- Environmental Analysis that identifies potential environmental impact locations; and,
- NEPA documentation

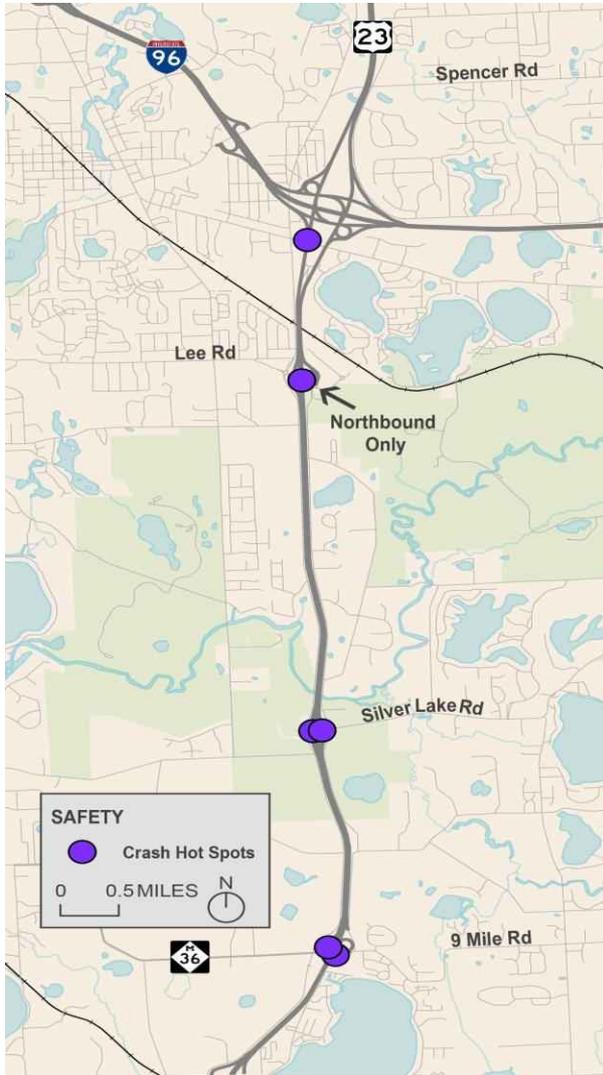
Existing and Future Traffic Conditions



Congestion (2020) –

- AM – Southbound US-23 near the eastbound I-96 on-ramp as well as the Silver Lake Road interchange.
- PM – Northbound where the flex lane currently ends north of 8 Mile Road, as well as near Lee Road and the I-96 ramps.

Existing Safety Conditions



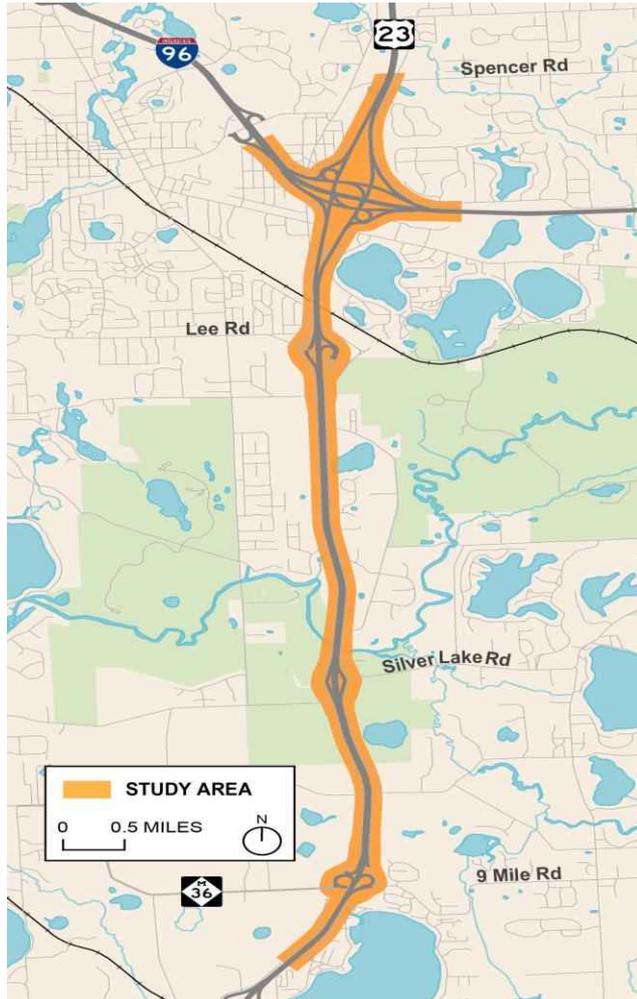
- Analyzed crashes from 2015 - 2019
- Highest percentage of crashes near the interchange areas
- 99 crashes per year in southbound direction
- 228 crashes per year in northbound direction
- High number of rear-end crashes due to rush hour congestion
- Short acceleration and deceleration lanes

Existing Road and Bridge Conditions



- Acceleration and deceleration lanes are short
- Shoulders are narrow
- Pavement condition is fair to poor (north of Silver Lake Road)
- Bridges are in fair condition
 - Study will document fix type

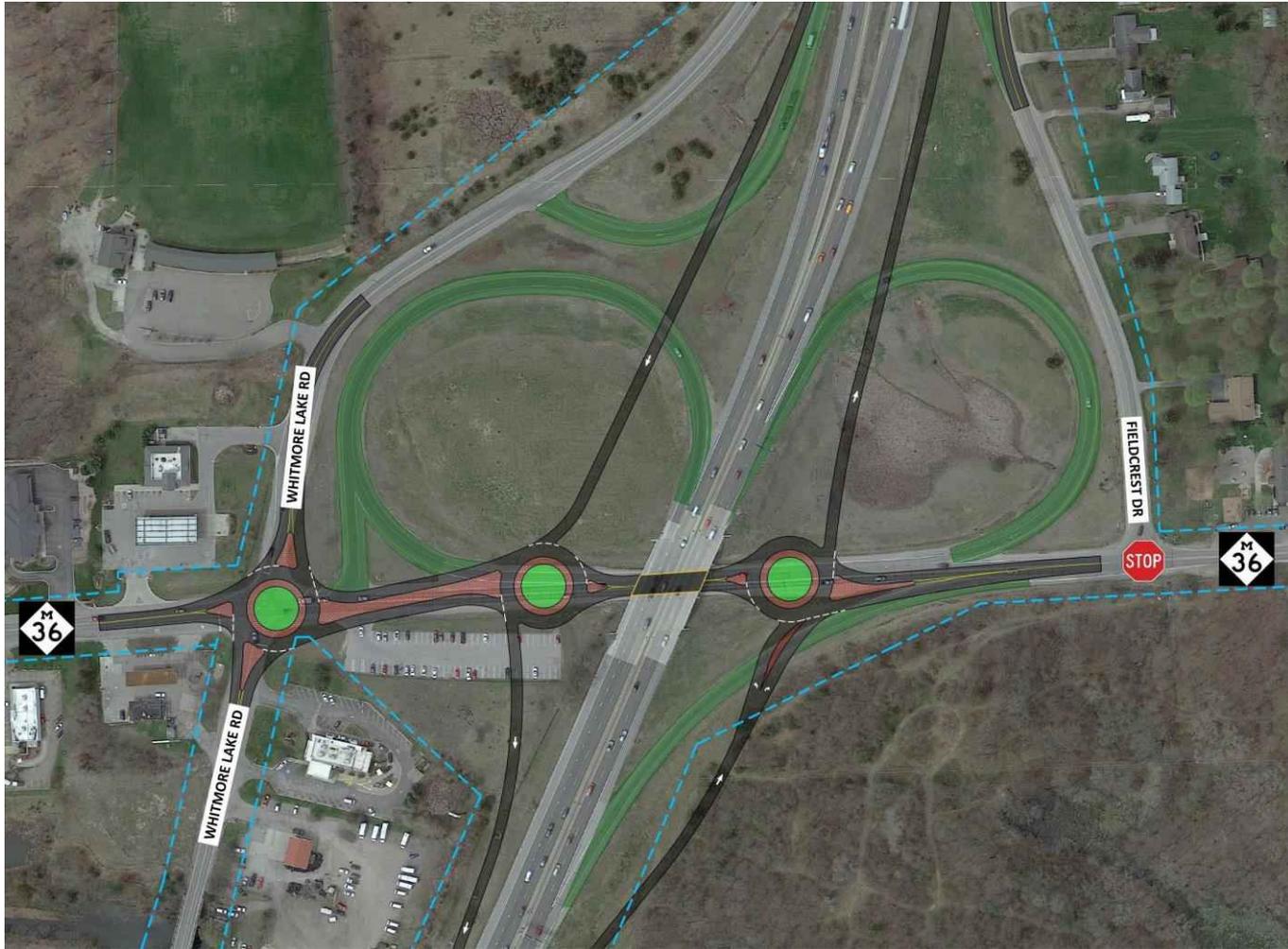
Flex Route Extension



Extend the existing US-23 Flex Route from south of M-36 (9 Mile Road) to the I-96/US-23 interchange

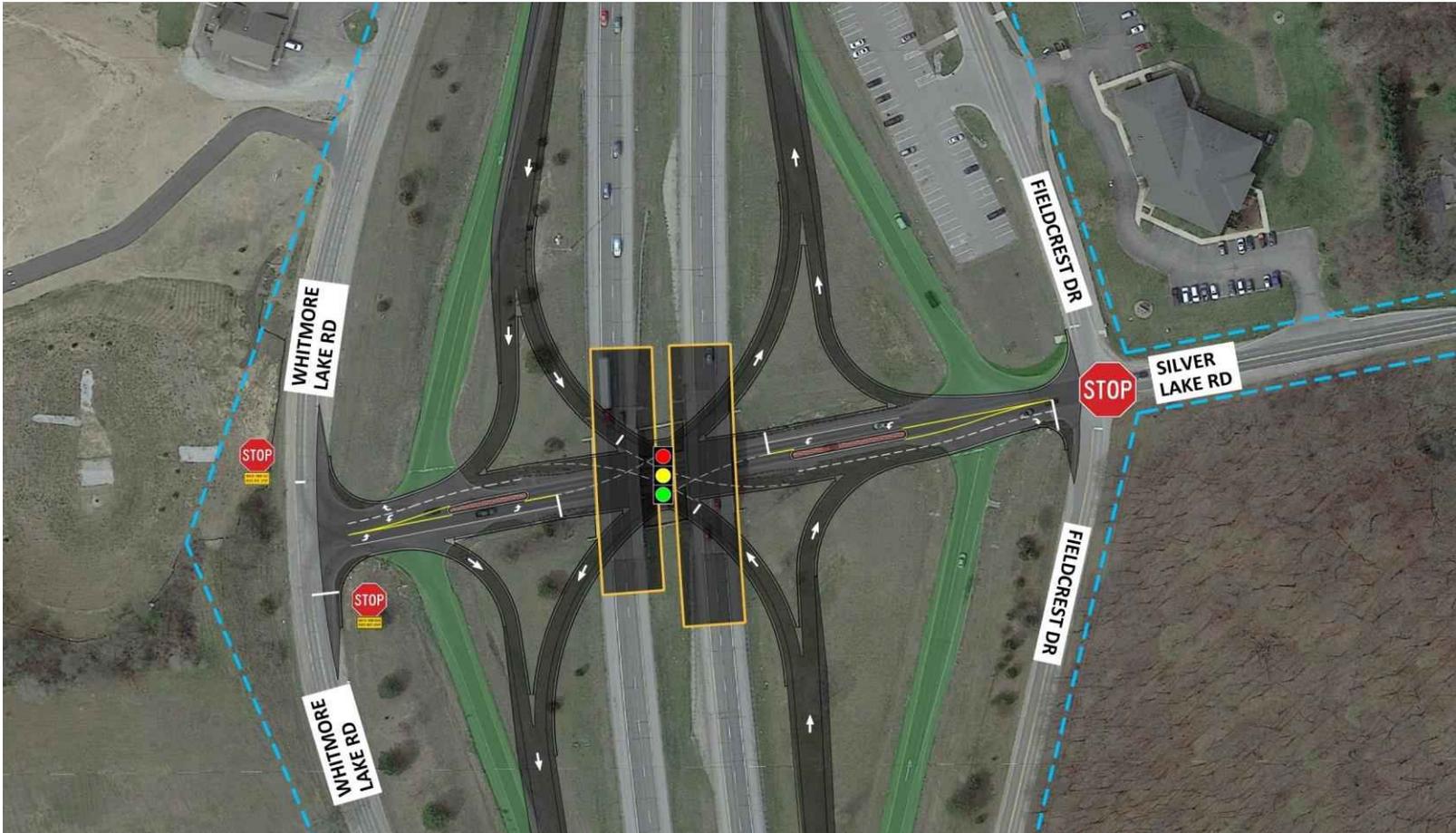


Interchange Alternatives – M-36 (9 Mile Road)



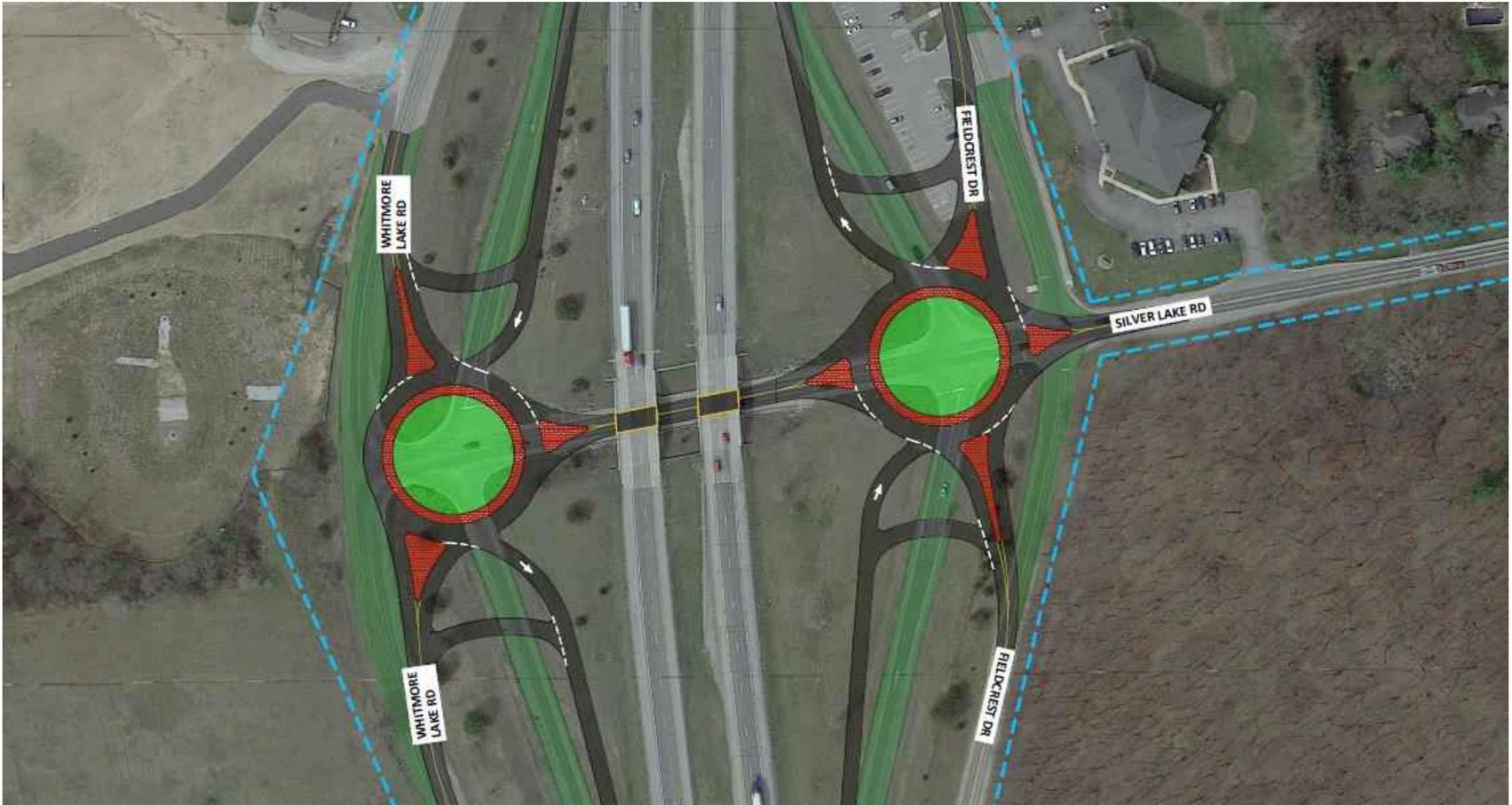
Interchange Alternatives – Silver Lake Road

Alternative 1: Single-point Urban Interchange (SPUI)



Interchange Alternatives - Silver Lake Road

Alternative 2: Roundabouts (include Whitmore Lake Road and Fieldcrest Road)



Environmental Impacts

Stage 1 – Initial Environmental Screening and Analysis

- Natural Environment
 - Air
 - Wetlands
 - Water Quality
 - Flora/Fauna
- Community Impacts
 - Public Engagement
 - Noise
 - Indirect/Cumulative
 - Public Parks
 - Detours
 - Right-of-way



Next Steps

- Comment Period – August 10, 2020
- Stage 2 Environmental Analysis
- Stakeholder and Public Meetings #2 – October 2020
- Submit Final NEPA Documentation to FHWA – December 2020
- Design – FY 2021
- Construction – FY 2023



Questions?



Contact Us



Kari Martin, Project Manager

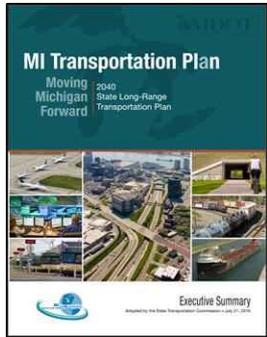
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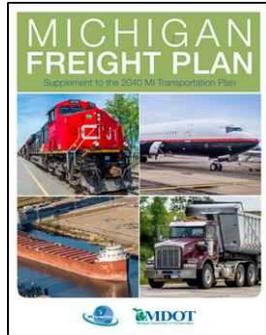
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Michigan State Long-Range Transportation Plan



Long-Range



Freight



Rail



Active



Transit Strategic Plan



Michigan Department of Transportation

Michigan 2045 Mobility

A transportation plan for a connected future #MM2045



Public Outreach – Round 2 (June – Sept. 2020)

- Telephone Town Halls (Early June 2020)
- MetroQuest Survey
- MDOT Project Meetings
 - Coordinating with MPOs and Region Planners
- Michigan Mobility website
 - www.michiganmobility.org
- MDOT social media

