

I-375 RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROJECT



Traffic Operations During Construction STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSIONS



I-375 RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROJECT

COMMON THEMES HEARD ACROSS ALL LISTENING SESSIONS



Maintaining access to businesses and neighborhoods is vital throughout the project



Project impacts on major event traffic, which is already challenging and requires careful planning



Consideration of truck loading and unloading patterns when planning detours carefully



Ensure clear, consistent, and timely communication regarding road closures and detours



Effective wayfinding signage to help pedestrians navigate during construction



Minimize pedestrian detours and ensure adequate lighting and protection from vehicle traffic

Emergency Responders

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Potential emergency responder gate for I-75 access.
- Maintaining north/south access to DMC is crucial.
- Event traffic is a major concern, especially during construction.

Eastern Market

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Handling truck traffic during construction.
 - ▶ Wolverine Packing: 300 trucks per day.
 - ▶ Concerns over truck traffic being diverted through residential neighborhoods and/or non-freight capacity streets.
- Pedestrian access to Eastern Market and Gratiot Avenue businesses.
- Maintaining access to Eastern Market during construction is paramount.
- Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday markets are busiest days during peak season.
- Hundreds of small businesses rely on Saturday market for revenue.
- Need to be mindful of pedestrian routes into the market; nearby residents use Russell Street.
- Thinking of MOT, but also turn movements, handling truck traffic, exploring detours.
- Concerns over Google Maps accuracy for road closures.

Ford Field / Comerica Park

Stakeholder Listening Session



- **Buses:** Buses currently park on the south service drive between Woodward Avenue and Brush Street. Ford Field is considering relocating them; this construction could expedite those plans.
 - ▶ This area experiences heavy traffic on game days.
- **Ride share:** Space to stage buses and rideshare are necessary for the stadiums.
- **Road closures:** 100-foot barrier around Comerica Park: Witherell Street, Montcalm Street, Brush Street, and Adams Avenue.
- **Egress Patterns:** Most drivers use the Madison Street ramp to access I-75, while traffic exiting north on John R Street follows Mack Avenue to reach I-75. Those leaving the McLaren Garage enter I-75 at Clifford Street and the service drive.
- **Pedestrian Traffic Patterns:** The Montcalm Street connection will help with pedestrian traffic on the east side of the stadium but will not eliminate the problem.
 - ▶ **Ford Field:** During egress, pedestrians exiting Gate G will take over St. Antoine Street, Gratiot Avenue, Brush Street, Montcalm Street, Adams Avenue, and Madison Street.

Detroit Athletic Club

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Stadium traffic at Madison Street is a major concern during construction.
- Woodward Avenue may become congested during game days.
- Concerns about traffic control during big events.
- Maintaining access to DAC during construction.
- Concerns about communications regarding the project.
- Understanding detours entering and exiting DAC from I-75/I-375.

Hollywood Casino / Greektown Neighborhood Partnership



Stakeholder Listening Session

- Full ingress and egress into Greektown during the duration of the project. Need to be mindful of Greektown business deliveries.
- Greektown Neighborhood/Casino partnership concerns.
- Suggest visually pleasing materials that could distributed to employees and customers with upcoming construction information (detours, closures, etc.).
- Advanced notification for road closures/detours.
 - ▶ Casino needs at least six to eight 8 weeks. In some cases, a couple of months.
- MOT signs need to be very clear
 - ▶ Suggestion of detailed calendar of all events.
 - ▶ Not only to identify events but also to plan for necessary accommodation.
- Lafayette Street bridge is largest pedestrian corridor across I-375.
- Gratiot Avenue and Lafayette Street should not be closed simultaneously.
- Gratiot Avenue is one of the only connections from the eastside.
- Ensure parking access is not interrupted.

Detroit Free Press Marathon



Stakeholder Listening Session

- Maintaining route access and any necessary modifications will be a key factor for the marathon's viability throughout the project (no impacts on route until 2026).
- Future modifications to marathon route must be decided one year in advance.
- Marathon aims to become a qualifier for NYC Marathon.

St Peter and Paul Jesuit Church

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Requests for new trees and landscaping along Jefferson Street.
- Current trees are overgrown, blocking sign visibility. MOT agreed that new trees could “most likely” be added to the Jefferson Street green space.
- Interest in repurposing excess land, including a possible urban garden. This work would not be done by the PDB team.
- Wedding events (40-50 annually) must be considered.
 - ▶ Most occur May-June and some in August.
 - ▶ Typically held 3-6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

GM / Grand Prix / Detroit Riverfront Conservancy

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Wayfinding and educational signs about the project as visitors of the RiverWalk detour.
- For security reasons, large trucks making deliveries to the building need to be X-rayed, and as long as GM is still in the building, the X-ray operations need to keep going.
- There will need to be signs on pedestrian paths to help people understand how far out of the way detours will take them. Special attention needs to be given to the elderly and those with disabilities.
- Runners and joggers are going to want to know how much more distance is added to their runs as well. Distance could also be on the board.
- Grand Prix team will want to start collaborating on MOT race weekend post-2026 and develop a communications and stakeholder engagement plan around that.

Residential Neighborhoods

Stakeholder Listening Session



- Discussions about the possibility of creating a project-specific app in addition to just the project website as a communications tool.
- Discussion on a mobile app for real-time detour alerts.
- Interest in integrating educational opportunities into the project.
- General questions as to what the detour routes will be into and out of the neighborhoods.
- Concerns with residents exiting and entering the neighborhoods located east of I-375/south of Eastern Market.
 - ▶ People who travel/work to the south: What would be the detour routes?
 - ▶ Improvements/upgrades to city streets, especially St. Aubin Street: Discussions about resurfacing due to road condition and added signals due to high speeds.
 - ▶ A major pedestrian route from these neighborhoods is Russell Street across the Gratiot Connector to access Eastern Market. Concerns about what the pedestrian detour route would be.
 - ▶ There is a City of Detroit project to remove the Chestnut Street bridge over the Dequindre Cut. There are concerns if this bridge is removed prior to completing the Gratiot Avenue bridge rebuild over the Dequindre Cut that it will cause traffic issues for the neighborhoods.