



West Franklin Boulevard Rehabilitation Project (West 85th Street to West 25th Street) Questions & Answers from the May 4, 2022 Public Meeting

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND DETOUR INFORMATION

What is the anticipated timing for the West Franklin Boulevard Rehabilitation project?

The project will be built in two phases. Each phase will be performed using half-width construction, meaning that one side of the street will be done at a time.

Phase 1 of the project encompasses West Franklin Boulevard from West 85th Street to West 50th Street. Construction of this phase is scheduled to begin on May 11, 2022 and the roadwork is planned to be substantially complete by November 2022.

Phase 2 of the project, from West 50th Street to West 25th Street, will begin in early Spring, 2023. There may be some overlap between the phases (landscaping and restoration). The overall project is scheduled for completion by August 2023. (The exact limit between Phase 1 and 2 may vary depending on the ongoing work of Dominion East Ohio Gas along the corridor.)

What detours will be in place for the first phase of construction (scheduled to start on May 11, 2022)?

Detours will be instituted for the active construction phase (along West Franklin Boulevard from West 85th Street to West 50th Street in 2022). West Franklin Boulevard will be one-way westbound only during construction, with the north half of the street closed from early May through late July and the south half closed from late July through mid-October. The traversable mini-roundabouts will also be constructed half-and-half according to these construction zones. The entire road will then be paved curb-to-curb, anticipated by the end of October. The posted detour will route eastbound traffic to Detroit Avenue via West 85th Street, although residents may also use side streets to navigate through the neighborhood.

Side streets are expected to remain open to traffic in both directions, except during the construction of the traversable mini-roundabouts. While the roundabouts are being constructed, half of the side street will be closed at a time, and intersection-specific detours will be posted. The traversable mini-roundabouts will be constructed one at a time to minimize inconvenience.

All project timing is tentative and subject to change based on conditions encountered during construction. Please refer to the project website, www.WestFranklinCLE.com, for general construction updates and project design details.

Will on-street parking be allowed during the first phase of construction?

No. A parking ban will be in effect on West Franklin Boulevard from West 85th Street to West 50th Street through most of 2022.

Who should be contacted if there are questions or problems during construction?

Please direct your questions and concerns to:
District 12 Public Information Office
D12.Public.Information@dot.ohio.gov
(216) 584-2005

Project information states that Phase 1 is between West 85th Street and West 50th Street. What is the construction work that I'm observing between West 50th Street and West 25th Street?

Dominion East Ohio (gas company) is working east of West 50th Street in Spring, 2022 and may have their own lane closures as part of their project. Their work is anticipated to conclude in July, 2022.

How will the W. 85th Street intersection reconstruction happen?

Traffic will be maintained north and south along West 85th Street through construction. A flagger may be present at times to help people navigate through the intersection safely.

Who will be in charge of replacing trees in tree lawns if they are damaged?

Tree protection and health is a top priority for the project, and contractors have been instructed to have the highest level of concern for the tree canopy. If anything is damaged during construction, the contractors will be responsible for restoring trees. The project team will also be working with the urban forester and arborists to protect trees and treat them with care.

Who should I contact if I have a question about the construction project or experience any issues?

Contact ODOT District 12 at 216-584-2005 or D12.Public.Information@dot.ohio.gov.

RESIDENTIAL ACCESS AND SERVICE PROVISION

Will I be able to get in and out of my driveway at all times during construction?

Access to driveways will be maintained during construction. The contractors will alert residents if there will be a temporary closure of their driveway for any reason. Plates can be placed over construction work to allow residents to get in and out of their driveways.

What should I do if I have planned work at my home within the construction zone (roof replacement, new driveway, house painters, etc.)?

If residents have construction work scheduled at their homes, they are encouraged to email or call the District 12 public information line (216-584-2005 or D12.Public.Information@dot.ohio.gov) with their project schedule. This will be shared with the roadway contractor to ensure easy access.

When should I expect the workers to be active?

City ordinance states that construction noise must be limited to between 7am to 7pm. The contractor's shift time begins at 7am, and they have coordinated to begin loud, heavy machinery operations no earlier than 8am.

How will trash pickup be impacted during construction?

The normal waste pickup schedule will be maintained. Place garbage cans in their normal spot on the tree lawn. Do not place them in the construction zone.

How will dismissal be accommodated for Joseph M. Gallagher School at West 65th Street and West Franklin Boulevard during construction? Who should I call if there are issues?

Notices of the construction and detour are being shared with parents, and the construction team has coordinated to have law enforcement officers on site during the transition to assist with smooth traffic flow. The construction teams will pull the barrels out of the street during arrival and dismissal times so that parents can access the northern curb to drop off students, in addition to using the parking cut-out adjacent to the school. Gallagher will also shift to dismissing all car riders at the same time (rather than by age groups) to reduce the wait time for parents and allow more staff to be available to assist. Buses will continue to use Bridge Avenue for pick-up and drop-off. Please report any issues to ODOT District 12 at 216-584-2005 or D12.Public.Information@dot.ohio.gov.

Will construction crews clean the streets to avoid punctured tires on residents' cars?

After the asphalt milling, the crew will sweep the street to remove debris. After that, construction work will be concentrated in the closed side of the street. Until the final paving is done, some castings will be raised about an inch and a half. People should drive slowly and carefully around these as it is an active work zone.

How can we be sure the road will be a lower elevation than our driveways to avoid flooding issues?

The project engineers will ensure the roadway is installed according to specification. When the road is nearing completion, the contractor and ODOT will observe a rain event and correct any drainage issues.

PROJECT DESIGN DETAILS

Will bike lanes be added as part of this project?

Bike lanes will not be added to West Franklin Boulevard as part of this project. The existing sharrows will be replaced, along with traffic calming and pedestrian safety enhancements. Design details are available on the project website at www.WestFranklinCLE.com.

Have the intersections been designed in a way to allow large vehicles and trucks to turn?

Yes, turning movements of large vehicles were taken into account during design. At a few intersections, the curb radii will be reduced as a traffic calming measure so that vehicles have to slow down to make the turn. Large vehicles will still be able to navigate these turns. At the intersections where traversable mini-roundabouts are installed, large vehicles are able to go slowly over the center islands to complete their turns.

How and by whom will the traversable mini-roundabouts be maintained?

City staff have reviewed the mini-roundabout plans with the Department of Public Works to ensure they will be able to perform routine maintenance (such as street sweeping and snow plowing) with the new intersection configurations. The Mayor's Office of Capital Projects is responsible for long-term, capital maintenance.

Will there be a mini-roundabout at W. 50th Street?

Yes. A more detailed design graphic for the corridor will be added to the project website in the coming days.

I understand this project is focused on West Franklin Boulevard, but has there been any discussion of traffic calming solutions for side streets?

An updated Complete and Green Streets ordinance is currently under review for passage by City Council. This ordinance will update the City's 2011 Complete and Green Streets ordinance, incorporate additional green and multimodal elements in roadway projects, increase opportunities for stakeholder input, and expand stakeholder understanding of roadway project development. The City is also developing a speed table pilot program for the city to inform citywide neighborhood traffic calming policies.

What kind of research or evaluation is being done on these interventions to inform future use in other parts of the city?

The City has collected crash reports and several rounds of traffic speed and volume data along West Franklin Boulevard and some side streets to understand the pre-construction dynamics. Additionally, the City has some video footage of existing intersections to compare to future operations. The legislation approving the project also includes a provision requiring a traffic safety report assessing the effectiveness of the traffic calming elements.

How will people know the rules for driving through the traversable mini-roundabouts?

The City will provide information on safe driving practices for the mini-roundabout intersections through several outlets, including email, website updates, a mailer, and an informational meeting.