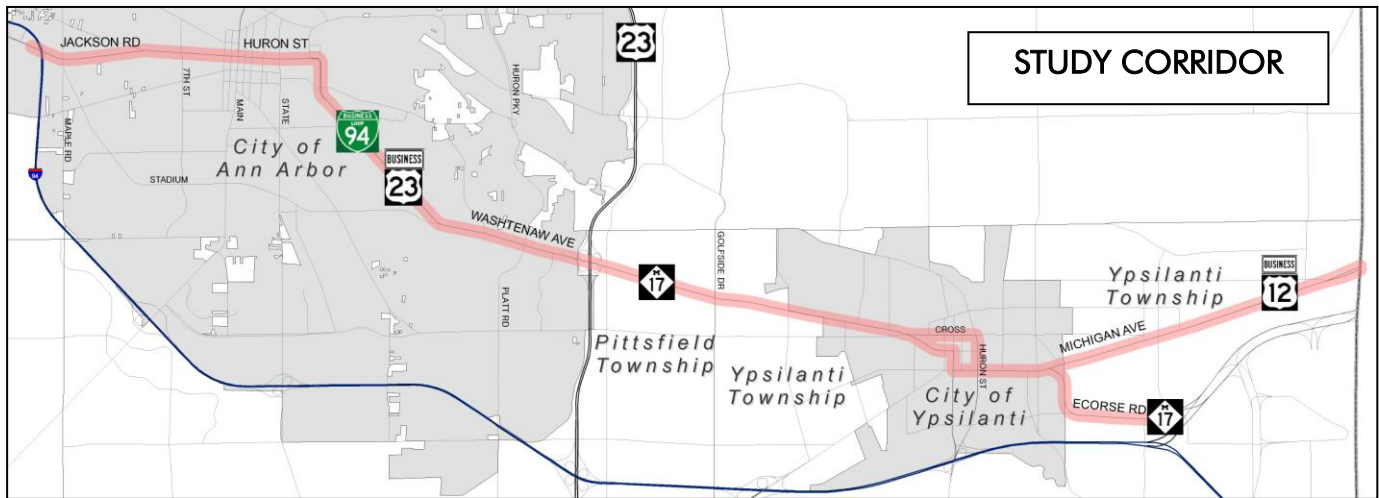


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Opinion Wanted for Jackson/Huron/Washtenaw Corridor Study



The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC), the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) have embarked on a collaborative effort to improve the transportation system in Washtenaw County. Residents and property owners along the Jackson/Huron/Washtenaw corridor from Ann Arbor through Ypsilanti that are interested in improving traffic flow and safety have the opportunity to provide input into a new plan for the corridor. Sponsored by MDOT, this project will study portions of I-94 BL and US-23 BR (Jackson Road and Huron Street), M-17 (Washtenaw Avenue, Michigan Avenue and Ecorse Road) and US-12 BR (Michigan Avenue) to identify ways to improve road efficiency, capacity and safety for all corridor users, including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. MDOT formed a steering committee consisting of representatives from MDOT, WCRD, WATS, Ann Arbor, Pittsfield Township, Ypsilanti Township, and the City of Ypsilanti. The steering committee will be working with the consultant team of LSL Planning and DLZ Michigan, to prepare an Access Management Plan and local Ordinance Amendments for the corridor.

To help assess public opinion and to gather ideas and concerns, the project team is hosting two public workshops that will take place in the middle of the 9-month long study. The first workshop will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at the Washtenaw Community College from 4:00 to 5:30 pm and from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, with presentations at 4:30 and 7:30 pm to present the overall project concept and preliminary plan recommendations. The second workshop will be held after initial input is gathered, on Monday, October 29, 2007, at the Washtenaw County Service Center from 5:15 to 6:30 pm and from 7:15 to 8:45 pm, with presentations at 5:30 and 7:45 pm. Anyone interested in improving the travel experience for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrian and transit users is encouraged to attend to learn about the project and the benefits of access management, and to offer their ideas and concerns.

Access Management includes tools used to improve traffic operations and safety. Many studies, both in Michigan and nation-wide, have found that reducing the number and improving the location and design of driveways can significantly improve a road's capacity and reduce the potential for crashes. Access Management works to improve spacing between driveways, improve traffic flow, reduce the likelihood of crashes, and improve aesthetics while providing reasonable access to properties.

The Access Management Plan to be developed will include guidelines and site-specific recommendations for access spacing, driveway design, use of shared drives or service drives, and the identification of driveways to close or redesign. The recommendations will be based on research, review of existing conditions, and public input. Zoning ordinance amendments will be prepared for each community to implement the Plan.

For more information on the Washtenaw County Access Management Plan, please contact MDOT the Project Manager, Paul Lott at lottp@michigan.gov or call (517) 750-0405.

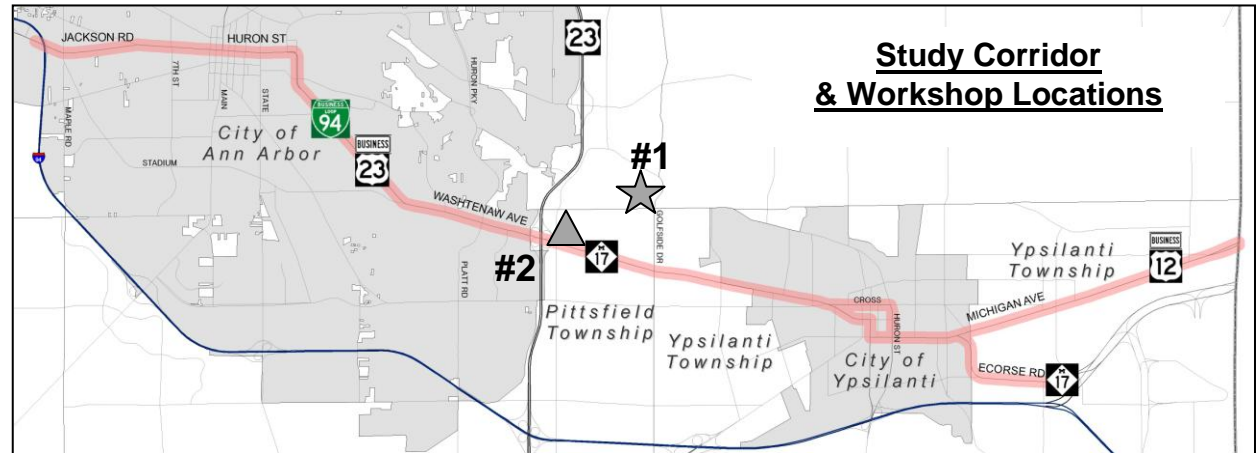
Tell us how we can improve the I-94 BR / M-17 corridor!

Washtenaw County Access Management Plan
City of Ann Arbor, City of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, Pittsfield Township



The Project

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is teaming with the cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti and the townships of Ypsilanti and Pittsfield to prepare an **access management plan along I-94 BR (Jackson Rd, Huron St., Washtenaw Ave), M-17 (Washtenaw Ave, Michigan Ave, Ecorse Rd), and US-12 BR (Michigan Ave)** – see map at right.



What is Access Management?

Access management is a set of techniques that **improve safety, promote business vitality, maintain traffic flow, and enhance corridor aesthetics**. These techniques focus on the number, location, spacing, and design of driveways and intersections along the corridor.

What will the Plan do?

The Access Management Plan will include guidelines and site-specific recommendations for access improvements to improve safety of motorists and pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users.

What are the Public Workshops?

Two informal workshops are being held to present concepts and gather input. The purpose of each is as follows:

- **First workshop to present the overall project concept and preliminary Plan recommendations**
- **Second workshop to present the draft Plan.**

Join us to learn about access management and discuss the corridors!

#1 ★

Thursday, September 27

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building, Room 101
4800 E Huron River Drive
Presentations at 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

#2 ▲

Monday, October 29

5:15 – 6:30 p.m. & 7:15 – 8:45 p.m.

Washtenaw County Service Center Library
Northeast corner of Hogback and Carpenter Roads
Presentations at 5:30 p.m. & 7:45 p.m.