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Greetings from President Pam Hansen

In my note from August 7, we had just received the judge's order prohibiting the village from constructing new sidewalks in residential areas. Since then, streetscape construction has commenced with some design changes to enable us to move forward in compliance with her orders. So far, the project is on schedule.

Here is an update on the Streetscape project:

Drains: The trenches being dug downtown are for storm drain sewers. Most of the existing storm drains are being cleaned out and reused. Since few maps exist showing where older village drains are located, the search for where the drainpipes actually end has been an interesting process.

Sidewalks: On the west side of Franklin Road, we will not build new sidewalks south of Vincennes. Sidewalks will be built from Evelyn to Vincennes along the commercial properties and fire station and near the new **Loyal Paws** (formerly Drake's Gallery) business on Wellington. Roadway finishing will occur there and from Wellington to Carol along the village green. This includes drains, curbing, landscaping/trees and lighting, even though there will be no sidewalk.

On the east side of Franklin Road, existing sidewalks are being replaced. There will be no new sidewalks installed south of the point at which the current sidewalk ends.

As a reminder, there will be no walkway on the west side of Franklin from 14 Mile road to Evelyn due to cost and complications with the Road Commission of Oakland County with regard to what is, for all practical purposes, a five-way intersection near the cider mill.

Trees and Beds: We expect to plant trees in several weeks. For details on species and locations, please refer to the August 21 article on the village web site. It goes into a LOT of detail. Tree lovers will be very happy.

Lighting: Electrical cable will be installed over the next few weeks along the sides of the road. We are installing 8 down-light poles and several small pedestrian lights to make it easy to navigate along the roadway after dark.

I hope this is helpful as we manage through the construction. This process adds additional challenges to Franklin businesses already hit hard by the pandemic, so I hope you will make a special effort to patronize them during this time.

Reminder – each week, an email news blast is published on Monday on the work scheduled for that week and more information appears in the Thursday update from the village. If you are not getting these emails and want to, please call the office at 248-626-9666. Information also is on the [village web site](#). As always, please call the village office with any questions.