



QUALITY LIFE THROUGH GOOD ROADS:  
ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY

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**Engineering Department**  
**Design Division**

**31001 Lahser Road**  
**Beverly Hills, MI**  
**48025**

**248-645-2000**

**FAX**  
**248-645-0618**

**www.rcocweb.org**

July 23, 2020

Mr. Jason Thompson, Chairperson – Historic Districts Commission  
c/o Kristen Kapelanski, Planning Manager  
Planning & Economic Development Department  
City of Rochester Hills  
1000 Rochester Hills Drive  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

Re: Avon Road Corridor Study  
Dequindre Road to 23 Mile Road

Dear Mr, Thompson,

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), in cooperation with the City of Rochester Hills, City of Rochester, Macomb County Department of Roads and Charter Township of Shelby, is currently completing a corridor improvement study of East Avon Road, between Dequindre Road and 23 Mile Road.

The reason for this study is due to the need for the RCOC to remove/replace the existing bridge over the Clinton River and the pending Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) 96 inch diameter water main installation. Due to these pending large-scale construction projects, the study participants indicated a desire to evaluate improvement opportunities that could be completed in conjunction with these large-scale projects.

As part of the study, it was observed that there is significant traffic congestion, high pedestrian movements during various times of the year, recreational and historic properties along the corridor. The goal of the study is to identify an appropriate improvement that reduces traffic congestion, improves safety and accessibility while minimizing impacts to the surrounding properties and historic attributes.

The RCOC has consulted with regulatory agencies, communities, utility companies and Yates Cider Mill owner. This was done to obtain information and feedback on use of the surrounding properties in order to narrow down appropriate alternatives being considered. Based on this information gathering, analysis and feedback, a preferred improvement was determined.

The preferred improvement includes the construction of two roundabouts, one at Dequindre/Avon and the other at Avon/23 Mile Road; a three-lane roadway between the roundabouts; 8’ wide pedestrian pathways between the roundabouts with appropriate crossings and connections and a new bridge at the Clinton River.



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Along the corridor, there are two properties that are registered on the Rochester Avon Historical Society inventory and are subject to the jurisdiction of the Historical District Commission. The two properties in question are shaded green on the concept drawing.

The proposed improvement will have some minor impacts on the HDC parcels. The impacts potentially include the construction of a retaining wall along with some right-of-way acquisition on the northerly parcel. The southerly parcel (cider mill) impacts appear to be largely contained within the existing road right-of-way.

For HDC review, please find attached a concept drawing for the corridor improvement and a portion of the draft corridor study relating to the identified historical components. The attachments are being provided to the HDC for review/comment and to answer questions/gather feedback. The RCOC is looking forward to reviewing this concept with the HDC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff O'Brien".

Jeff O'Brien, PE  
Design Engineer