

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Permit Project
M-72 and Lautner Road Reconstruction,
Project Update

August 8, 2015 – Despite some early challenges due to weather and soil conditions, a permit project to construct three roundabouts on M-72 and Lautner Road in Acme Township is making good progress toward completion this fall. This project was permitted by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Grand Traverse County Road Commission to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians for construction. The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian's Landscape Architecture and Land Planning Company, RCA, LLC, has been managing the project with Rieth-Riley as their general contractor.

The project includes both the M-72 and Lautner Roads which will consist of building three roundabouts, one pedestrian tunnel, storm sewer, street lighting, landscaping, traffic signing, and pavement markings. There will be two roundabouts located on M-72, one constructed 2,400 feet west of the M-72/Lautner Road intersection and one at the M-72/Lautner Road intersection. The third roundabout will be constructed approximately 1,300 feet south of the M-72/Lautner Road intersection on Lautner Road.

During construction, one lane will be maintained in each direction on M-72 with traffic shifts and some flag control at night. Lautner Road will be closed off for through-traffic through mid to late September when under construction. Access will be maintained to businesses and residents located along both roads within the project limits at all times. The first stage of reconstructing M-72 will focus on the westbound lanes from just east of Lautner Road through to just west of McGee's No. 72 Restaurant. This stage will also include construction of M-72's first roundabout and pedestrian tunnel, directly east of the Hilltop Condominiums. The bypass, currently being utilized by travelers, is expected to remain in place through to the second week in August. Traffic is planned to be shifted to the newly paved lanes on the M-72 trunk line on August 11, 2015. Work will then commence on the south lanes of M-72 and Lautner Road through mid to late September, when both roads are anticipated to be completed and open.