



Road
Commission
of Kalamazoo
County

Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

Road Closure Update



Kalamazoo, MI-

In an effort to keep road users informed of the road closures by the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC), we have provided the following update for today **May 27, 2020.**

Due to current rain events and high-water tables throughout the county, the RCKC has found it necessary to close and have roads remained closed. Construction projects are also being planned to safely reopen roadways. At this time, a specific date of when each of these roads will be reopen is not available*.

The RCKC is stressing to the public that it is ***not*** safe to move, remove barricades or drive around them. There's a reason the barricades and signs are in place and that reason is to protect the safety of the motoring public and our road maintenance operators. Even when you don't immediately see water, equipment or road maintenance operators, it is not safe to disregard the traffic signs and barricades.

Roads closed due to water over the road and other unexpected issues are being monitored to ensure safety prior to opening, even after the water appears to be off the road surface. We appreciate your cooperation and patience, until which time roads are safe to reopen.

Sign up for RCKC CONNECT to receive message alerts for road construction, road closures/detours, and general public news from the RCKC website at: www.kalamazooountyroads.com

Please note: This information is subject to change. Projects, road closures and timing can change from day to day, depending upon a number of factors, and traffic delays can develop in a matter of minutes due to weather conditions, emergency situations, etc.

OSHTEMO TOWNSHIP

Road: 8th Street – ML Avenue to KL Avenue

Current Status: Road Closed due to water over the road

End Date In 2019 the RCKC had 10 roads simultaneously closed, some from 2018, due to water over the road. The prolonged S. 8th Street flooding, about 200 feet in length and just north of ML Avenue, is unusual. Typically, road closures for water over the road are temporary and South 8th Street has no known history of flooding. The Township reached out to local geological experts recently who concluded the water on South 8th Street is unlikely to recede in the foreseeable future. The RCKC and Oshtemo met to review the situation and from that meeting determined the following – First, a temporary solution of building the road up to a height above the current water level is not an option due to the uncertainty of the structural integrity of the road and the increased risk it would pose to users. Second, the Township and RCKC would immediately work with civil engineers to develop reconstruction plans to build the long-term solution. This process includes design, estimating costs, identifying funding, and securing permits prior to construction.

The Township and the RCKC entered into an agreement that provides for support of a long term solution for South 8th Street between ML Avenue and KL Avenue. The RCKC is in turn working with Hubbell Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC) civil engineering firm for a solution. HRC is working on the preliminary engineering design options and has already been in contact with the State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). EGLE will be involved to permit the final engineering solution. HRC has previous experience with RCKC addressing road flooding areas in Texas Township. The typical civil engineering process includes preliminary design, construction documents development, permitting, funding, bidding, and construction. Specific details on a final design cannot be known at this time.

The continued closure of S. 8th Street is an inconvenience and our shared goal is to rebuild S. 8th Street as early as possible in the 2020 construction season so the road is re-opened in 2020.

TEXAS TOWNSHIP

Road: O Avenue – 4th Street to 6th Street

Current Status: Road Closed due to water over the road

End Date: TBD* A temporary road gravel lift has been completed to allow residents access. The road remains closed to thru traffic. Additional observation will be needed when the water levels decrease for any additional road repairs.

Road: **S Avenue – 8th Street to 10th Street** *NEW*

Current Status: *Road Closed due to water over the road*

End Date: TBD

Road: N. Eagle Lake Drive – E. Eagle Lake Drive to S. 5th Street

Current Status: **Closed for Lake Water Flooding of Road for Temporary Emergency Repair**

End Date: TBD* *A temporary road gravel lift has been completed to allow residents access. The road remains closed to thru traffic. Additional observation will be needed when the water levels decrease for any additional road repairs and potentially a legal lake limit is established.*

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