



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
COLOMA BUSINESS OFFICE

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.  
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 30, 2023

Heather Grace, Manager  
City of Buchanan  
302 North Redbud Trail  
Buchanan, Michigan 49107

Dear Heather Grace:

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has completed the design process for a rehabilitation/reconstruction project on US-31 northbound from US-12 (Exit 3) to M-139 (Exit 15) within Berrien, Bertrand, Niles, and Oronoko Townships. Proposed work on US-31 northbound includes asphalt overlay of mainline lanes/shoulders and interchange ramps, asphalt pavement reconstruction at various locations, concrete bridge approach reconstruction, carpool lot asphalt resurfacing at Niles-Buchanan Road (Exit 5), installation of temporary median crossovers, drainage repairs, permanent removal of the loop ramps at Niles-Buchanan Road (Exit 5), guardrail upgrades, tree clearing, right of way fence replacement, shoulder corrugations, permanent signing, and pavement markings. Proposed work on US-31 southbound includes asphalt widening/resurfacing of the median shoulder for maintenance of traffic purposes. The tentative construction timeline for this project is February to March 2023 for tree clearing and April to November 2023 for the road work.

To keep the public and public officials informed, MDOT is contacting you with the following information regarding the maintenance of traffic during the project.

- Lane and shoulder closures will be utilized on US-31 northbound and southbound during construction pre-work activities such as installing temporary median crossovers, pavement reconstruction on northbound and resurfacing of shoulders on both bounds.
  - During pavement reconstruction work adjacent to the US-12 (Exit 3) and M-139 (Exit 15) interchanges, ramps will be closed and detoured to the next interchange.
- A single lane of northbound traffic will be crossed over and maintained on southbound pavement utilizing temporary median crossovers located north of US-12 (Exit 3) and south of M-139 (Exit 15). Temporary median crossovers will also be located at the Walton Road (Exit 7) interchange for access purposes. A single lane of southbound traffic will be maintained.

Heather Grace  
Page 2  
January 30, 2023

- Northbound interchange ramps for Niles-Buchanan Road (Exit 5) and Snow Road (Exit 13) will be closed and detoured to the next interchange for the duration of construction while traffic is crossed over to southbound.
- Northbound interchange ramps at Walton Road (Exit 7) will be closed and detoured for approximately three weeks when they are under construction.

If you have further questions, please contact Chris Jacobs, the construction engineer overseeing this project, at 269-207-1928 or [JacobsC@michigan.gov](mailto:JacobsC@michigan.gov).

Sincerely,

*Jonathon W. Smith, P.E.* Jonathon W. Smith  
Jan 30 2023 10:01 AM

Jonathon Smith, P.E.  
Cost and Scheduling Engineer  
Coloma Business Office

cc: Chris Jacobs, P.E., Kalamazoo Transportation Service Center  
Pete Pfeiffer, P.E., Kalamazoo Transportation Service Center Manager  
Nick Schirripa, Southwest Region Communications Representative