

Buzz Report

October 16, 2024



Hot Topics:

- Election Updates – Early Voting and Extended Office Hours**



Early in-person voting for the upcoming election will be running from Saturday, October 26th to Sunday, November 3rd. Hours are from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Novi Civic Center daily, except for Thursday, which offers the later hours of 12 pm - 8 pm. Voters may appreciate knowing that they can run their absentee ballot through the tabulator at Early Voting.

cityofnovi.org/elections is being updated to add this information and social media posts planned to go live on 10/21.



Additionally, the Clerk's office counter has started their extended hours, staying open an additional two hours on Wednesdays, until 7 pm, throughout October. This update has already been shared on social media.

- Construction at the Civic Center**

The crosswalk work leading residents/visitors from the parking lot to the building has been under construction since earlier this week (10/7). The crosswalk should be open today (Thursday, 10/10), and the rest of the roadway will be open on Monday. The improvements were made in order to slow traffic coming through the campus on the way to the High School. At no point was access closed off to the ballot drop box. A clear path off of 10 Mile is available from the easternmost driveway on Novi Way.



Project Completed and open to regular traffic as of Monday, October 14.

- Pink Police Car Returns for Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

The [Police Department is running the Pink Car initiative](#) once more from September 25 to October 31 in support of the Believe in Miracles fund at Ascension Providence Hospital Novi. For a donation of \$5 or more, individuals can write a message of hope or sign a loved one's name on the car. The eye-catching car will be around town, including the following places and events:

October 19th (1pm – 4pm) "Jack O' Lantern Jubilee" at ITC Community Sports Park

October 26th (10am – 2pm) "Streets of Treats" in Downtown Northville

Since 2016, the Police Department has raised nearly \$75,000 through this initiative! This year, they've set the goal high, hoping for \$15,000. Donations can also be made [online](#).

- **Henry Ford Health and Ascension Merger is now complete**

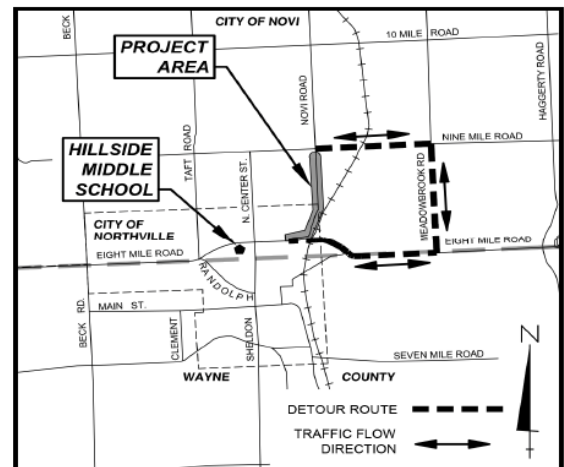
The news was released on October 1st. This newly combined organization will be renamed Henry Ford Health and will be led by our President and CEO, Bob Riney. Henry Ford Health will now employ over 50,000 team members at over 550 sites of care, including 13 acute care hospitals, three behavioral health facilities, and several outpatient medical facilities across southeast Michigan. Consistent with the commitment to maintaining the Catholic identity of the former Ascension Michigan hospitals and healthcare facilities included in the joint venture, sites that are currently Catholic will continue to provide faith-based care, and **the Providence, St. John and Genesys hospital names will be maintained**, in conjunction with Henry Ford Health. All existing Henry Ford Health facilities will continue to operate as they have — offering the same services patients have come to expect.

- **RCOC Public Info Meeting for 2025-26 Novi Road Work**

A public information meeting will take place on October 23rd at Hillside Middle School from 4:30 – 7 p.m. Residents around that area will receive an invitation to participate/ Attend this open house. The project will be completed over two construction seasons, 25 and 26:

Phase 1 will take place in the fall of 2025 and will involve the reconstruction of the curve between 8 Mile Road and Allen Drive. This section of Novi Road will be closed for this phase of work. The detour route will be 8 Mile Road to Meadowbrook Road to 9 Mile Road and vice versa

Phase 2 will take place in the spring and summer of 2026. It will include reconstruction of the road as well as widening of the road and installation of storm sewers. During this phase, Novi Road will remain open to northbound traffic, but will be closed to southbound traffic between 8 Mile and 9 Mile. The detour route for southbound traffic will be 9 Mile Road to Meadowbrook Road to 8 Mile Road.



- **Asahi Kasei America**

From Crain's Detroit: Plastics manufacturer Asahi Kasei America Inc. plans to close its New York City office and consolidate its headquarters to its Novi location.

The company, which supplies automotive, health care, and other industries, will move all headquarters administrative operations to its 14,400-square-foot office off Grand River Avenue effective Nov. 1, according to a [Crains Detroit news release](#).

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: ~~What is happening with the car wash at 10/Meadowbrook?~~

~~A: Pure Car Wash faced some delays with receiving a transformer, but they are now open.~~

Q: What is happening with the former nursing home at 10/Novi?

A: The former Whitehall nursing home has been demolished. Primrose School, a private preschool and daycare center, is currently in the pre-construction process for the former site. ~~Previously, a swim school was supposed to accompany the daycare, but that plan has been abandoned.~~ The proposed building is 13,586 square feet and is estimated to have 202 children during its peak hours.

Next Steps: Final Stamping Set submittal approved, pre-con held, foundation permit issued. Hydrant installation required prior to building permit issuance.

Q: What are the high-level road updates (end dates/major changes to closures) for the year?

A: I-96 Freeway Flex Route (Kent Lake Road to I-275/696/M5 Interchange), slated for completion in November

Q: Why have passport services stopped/When will they resume?

A: Passport services are paused for election services and are expected to resume in early December.

Q: When does voting begin?

A: Ballots were first mailed on September 26. Early voting will run from October 26 through November 3. On November 4 absent voter ballots may be voted in-person at the City Clerk's Office. November 5 is the official date of the Presidential Election.

Q: What are the teal ribbons on trees?

~~A: Tie Michigan Teal brings ovarian cancer awareness to cities throughout Michigan in September during Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. The campaign consists of volunteers tying teal ribbons on lamps, posts, benches, and business areas. The event is held during the month of September, which has been declared National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. There is no cost to the city, and the ribbons are taken down at the end of the month. Remaining ribbons are expected to be removed soon.~~

All the ribbons have been removed as of October 15.