



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

JOE LOUIS GREENWAY

Joe Louis Greenway – Phase 1 Design – Community Outreach Ordinance Meetings
5/3/2021 and 5/10/2021

Questions and Comments:

1. Will there be security at the rest areas?

Cameras will monitor the greenway, including rest areas.

2. Where will cameras be placed?

There will be cameras placed approximately 250' apart on call boxes. They will be spaced to ensure there is full coverage of the greenway. Cameras will be located at street crossings and in parking lots.

3. What are hours of operation of the greenway?

The greenway will be open 24 hours except for the River Walk and Dequindre Cut, which close at 10pm.

4. How will the greenway be maintained?

The Joe Louis Greenway will be maintained by the General Services Department.

Contractors are responsible to maintain the landscaping for the first 2 years with an approved watering and cultivation program. The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy will maintain the Riverwalk and Dequindre Cut.

5. Will there be bike rentals?

General Services Department will collaborate with MoGo Bike Share to fundraise for additional MoGo Bike Stations.

6. How can residents invest in property near the greenway?

GSD Response: Please email Christina Peltier at www.joelouisgreenway.com. Residents can go to <https://detroitmi.gov/government/mayors-office/properties/buy-publicly-owned-property> to purchase nearby property.

Detroit Land Bank Authority properties can be found here: <https://buildingdetroit.org/?SID=9gd76qqmgo62njo2qfq94s0pk5>. Side lots are available to residents.

We are looking into areas for potential pop-up business locations like the Freight Yard on the Dequindre Cut, per suggestion by residents.

Please email joelouisgreenway@detroitmi.gov if you want to be added to the email list.

7. Will Detroiters be displaced by the construction?

No. The greenway will be built on former rail and Detroit Land Bank Authority parcels.

8. How will this impact legacy Detroiters' taxes?

GSD Response: Proposal A was adopted by the voters of the State of Michigan in 1994. Proposal A caps (limits increases in property taxes) if the person owns the home. We hosted a workshop about taxes on March 2, 2021. The recording is saved here: https://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/rec/play/tBvXJMes6QoGImcBciG2NYWXu5fTQznoDR_Ws-OZPtomSzQtFDwS3OFTJiM0rCg4iZx26GdhF7WnyZWV.wSvMRbGOAUEUlc3e?autoplay=true&startTime=1614724991000.

9. Will the presentation be available?

All presentations are saved at www.joelouisgreenway.com.

10. What are you going to do about the scrapyards on Lonyo?

This phase of construction does not extend to Lonyo. There will be future public meetings for Lonyo. Please email joelouisgreenway@detroitmi.gov to be notified about future public meetings.

11. Will the playground be accessible for children with disabilities?

Earthscapes Playgrounds designs playgrounds across the US and Canada and are familiar with ADA requirements. The playground will be designed for different age levels, toddlers, two- to six-year-olds, seven to twelve, and older than twelve-years-old. There are substantial number of places where they playground will be accessible, including specialized surfaces, level entries, and special equipment.

12. When will the Joe Louis Greenway be completed?

Phase 1 construction will start in June pending City Council approval, with substantial completion by November. The construction of the full loop is dependent on securing funding. The loop could take ten years or more.

13. Is the Joe Louis Greenway why there is a rezoning for the Joy Road/Tireman/and Warren area?

Ru Shann Long, Midwest Civic Council of Block Clubs Response: The rezoning is not because of the Joe Louis Greenway. Ru Shann is a long-time resident of Bryden. When her family tried to purchase a side lot she learned Bryden, American, and Central had been rezoned to industrial. The community wanted to rezone the neighborhood from industrial to residential so residents could purchase side lots and to encourage new retail to support the neighborhood.

14. We have been on Oakman for 50+ years. There are very few African Americans working on these projects. We are concerned about the bidding and contract process. We want to make sure African Americans are getting some of these contracts. What is the process?

GSD Response: An executive order by Mayor Mike Duggan (<https://detroitmi.gov/sites/detroitmi.localhost/files/2018-02/EO%202016-1.pdf>) requiring city construction contracts worth more than \$3 million or projects that receive more than \$3 million in city funds (through land, funds, or tax abatements) to have its workforce be at least 51 percent Detroit residents. If the contractor does not meet this target, a percentage of wages an hourly worker would have made goes into a "Workforce Training Fund." That percentage increases the fewer Detroiters used by a contractor. The Civil Rights, Inclusion and Opportunity Department (CRIO) handle compliance with this law.

15. Are there dog areas? What are the guidelines for residents who use service dogs? Are there dedicated dog lanes? Who will monitor people to pick up dog waste?

Leashed dogs will be permitted on the Joe Louis Greenway. Service dogs will be treated same as any leashed dog. The Joe Louis Greenway will have seating areas and dog waste facilities. Dog walkers will be encouraged to use the slow-user path. GSD cannot monitor if people pick up their dog waste.

16. Will there be parking, and will it be free?

There will be parking lots at Joy Road (20 spaces) and Warren Avenue (40 to 60 spaces) to service the playground and pavilion. Grand River, Oakman, and Elmhurst will have on-street parking, with a potential adjacent parking lot in the future. Parking will be free and include ADA spaces. The Joe Louis Greenway is a path for circulation, with users accessing from the neighborhoods by bicycling and walking.

17. I am a southwest Detroit resident and have concerns about existing traffic due to bike lanes. I applaud you for taking this path off street. Will the City be removing bike lanes as the Greenway is built to bring back free-flowing traffic on streets like Livernois, Michigan, and Vernor?

The General Services Department coordinates parks and greenways planning, not on-street bike lane planning. The Publics Work Department is working on a master transportation plan named Streets for People. More information can be found at: https://detroitmi.gov/departments/departments_public-works/complete-streets/streets-people.

18. Will there be traffic signals for the bike lanes at crossings?

Rapid Flashing Beacons will be installed at major street crossings.

19. Will there be restrooms?

Temporary restrooms are planned at Warren, Joy, and Grand River.

20. Can we get a litter campaign?

The City picked up 3 times more trash this year than in previous years. This is an ongoing issue we are talking about in the park system.

21. Is there a provision for electric golf cars like Peach Tree Georgia? They require insurance and restrict to 15 miles per hour. This is appealing to those who do not ride bikes but want to enjoy the outside. This might be attractive to older residents with walking issues.

We can explore if golf cars can be permitted on the greenway.

22. Will ATVS be permitted on the greenway?

ATVs will not be permitted. Bollards will be installed to prevent ATVs from accessing the greenway. Electric bikes will be permitted within State Law.

23. Will there be recycling bins?

We are using park garbage cans for simplicity of maintenance. There is no funding for recycle bins currently.

24. Will electrical scooters be permitted on the greenway?

Scooters will be permitted, preferably on the fast user path with bicycles.

25. Will rollerblades and wagons be permitted on the greenway?

Yes, they are permitted.

26. Will there be overflow parking near the freeway, so residents have somewhere to park when they return home?

Greenway usage is different than park usage. It is a circulation path more than a destination. There will be parking at destinations. The goal is people use the greenway to bicycle or walk to destinations. We do not anticipate increased parking demand in the few residential areas it traverses as the corridor is intended as a transportation network.

27. How will loud music be limited on the Greenway?

Users will have to follow city ordinances and will be ticketed accordingly.

28. Do you anticipate the Greenway connecting to the east side?

GSD Response: The Greenway will traverse the eastside, specifically Joseph Campau, Hamtramck Drive, and the Dequindre Cut. The Joseph Campau Greenway and the Conner Creek Greenway are also located on the east side.

29. Are there any planning efforts in the Oakman/Linwood/Davison Area? There has been nothing built in the area since 1971.

The Joe Louis Greenway will cross both Davison and Linwood. GSD has also renovated Zussman Park along Davison.