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AUBURN HILLS TO BE SITE OF MICHIGAN'S FIRST DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE (DDI)

City contributes \$4 million to University Drive interchange replacement project from Cross Creek to Opdyke Road designed to improve intersection capacity, congestion and motorist safety.

Auburn Hills, MI—March 23, 2015—The City of Auburn Hills, a dynamic community in Oakland County committed to innovation and growth, will be the site of Michigan's first Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI). Under management of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), construction of the \$25 million DDI, which includes the University Drive Bridge from Cross Creek to Opdyke Road, will begin this spring and is expected to open to traffic later this year.

The Auburn Hills DDI will improve intersection capacity and safety, decrease traffic congestion, virtually eliminate driver confusion, and be walkable. Residents and commuters are encouraged to visit the city's official website at www.auburnhills.org/community/2015roadprojects for continuous construction updates and alternate route information.

"This innovative interchange will benefit our residents and be enormously advantageous to our thriving business community comprised of world-class companies," said Auburn Hills Mayor Kevin McDaniel. "We are pleased to be partnering with MDOT on this important project that will enhance commerce and vastly improve motorist safety in Auburn Hills. The lasting benefits of the DDI will far outweigh the short term inconvenience during construction."

The DDI, also referred to as a double crossover diamond interchange, differs from traditional interchanges. From the highway, the interchange looks like any other diamond interchange form, with one ramp off the highway and one ramp on to the highway. However, as traffic approaches the cross road at the first ramp, the intersection is adjusted so that traffic is placed on the opposite side of the road. At the second set of ramps there is another crossover intersection that returns traffic back to the right side of the road. Motorists are able to make direct left turns on and off the freeway without crossing opposing traffic. Because the left turns are simplified, there is no need for extra left turn lanes or left turn signals.

As compared to other interchange options, the Auburn Hills DDI project requires less land acquisition and pavement, and is less expensive to maintain over time. There are currently 17 DDIs in operation throughout the United States.

For more information about the City of Auburn Hills DDI project, residents may also contact the Department of Public Works, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (248) 391-3777.

Editor's Note: A simulation of the Diverging Diamond Interchange and maps of the Auburn Hills project are available at www.auburnhills.org/community/2015roadprojects.

About Auburn Hills

The City of Auburn Hills is a distinguished leader in southeast Michigan. Home to 21,000 residents, as well as a workday population of approximately 100,000, Auburn Hills continues to be a thriving global business address. It is home to over 80 international corporations and hosts the World and North American headquarters for numerous outstanding businesses such as Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Continental Automotive Systems, Faurecia, and BorgWarner. Auburn Hills' residents enjoy the amenities of city and suburban living with parks, a revitalized downtown district and a welcoming city complex with a library and community center. Additionally, the city has five colleges and universities, the award winning Palace of Auburn Hills sports and entertainment complex and Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, one of the state's largest destination shopping centers, providing a variety of cultural, social and educational opportunities to residents, workers and visitors. Learn more at www.auburnhills.org.

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