



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Macomb County Department of Roads Hosts Innovate Mound Community Open House

Residents, business owners and other stakeholders attended Innovate Mound 101 to learn about the project, share ideas and meet the project team

Macomb County, MI – The Macomb County Department of Roads (MCDR) held Innovate Mound 101 on Tuesday, February 25, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at UAW Local 228, located at 39209 Mound Road in Sterling Heights. MCDR personnel and the Innovate Mound project team was on hand to provide details and answer questions about the project throughout the event. There were also presentations about the project.

The Innovate Mound project will reconstruct nine miles of Mound Road from 11 Mile Road north to M-59 in Macomb County. The section from 17 Mile to M-59 also will be widened to add a fourth lane in each direction. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$217 million. Construction is expected to start in summer 2021 with a projected completion in 2024.

This project was made possible by a partnership of local businesses and government officials who were able to secure an Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2018. Macomb County is leading the project in partnership with the cities of Warren and Sterling Heights in coordination with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Macomb County hired the infrastructure design firm HNTB to manage the project in 2019.

Since its construction in the 1940s, Mound Road has been a vital corridor for the community and the economy. From the production of tanks during World War II to modern-day high-tech research and production, the corridor has served as a major hub for national automotive, defense, aerospace and advanced manufacturing industries.

Currently, more than 47,000 people are employed along Mound Road, which supports an additional 71,100 jobs in Macomb County. Another 101,000 jobs in Michigan are supported by the corridor's business activity. Combined, \$8.7 billion in wages and benefits are paid to more than 118,000 employees in Macomb County.

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“Mound Road is a major roadway that connects people, communities, and commerce. Innovate Mound is an initiative to rebuild one of the most important corridors in Southeast Michigan,” said Bryan Santo, director of the Macomb County Department of Roads. “The vision of the partnership behind this effort is a high quality, long-lasting roadway that incorporates the future of mobility and technology.”

State-of-the-art improvements will include unified lighting, improved pedestrian access, non-motorized multi-use paths, traffic flow improvements and more. For project details, information and a complete list of enhancements, visit innovatemound.org. All information from the Innovate Mound 101 event is also available on the project website.

The public is invited to call 1-855-MOUND-4U (1-855-668-6348) or email info@innovatemound.org to share ideas or schedule a time to talk with the Innovate Mound project team.

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About Innovate Mound

Macomb County, in partnership with the cities of Sterling Heights and Warren, will reconstruct nine miles of Mound Road from I-696 north to M-59. The project will strengthen the region and enhance connectivity by incorporating state-of-the-art design and smart technology to create a modern corridor. More information about Innovate Mound can be found at innovatemound.org.