

# Environmental Assessment of the Beck Road Corridor Improvement Project

*South of 9 Mile Road in Novi to North of Pontiac  
Trail in Wixom, Oakland County*

**Public Hearing**  
**May 14, 2025**





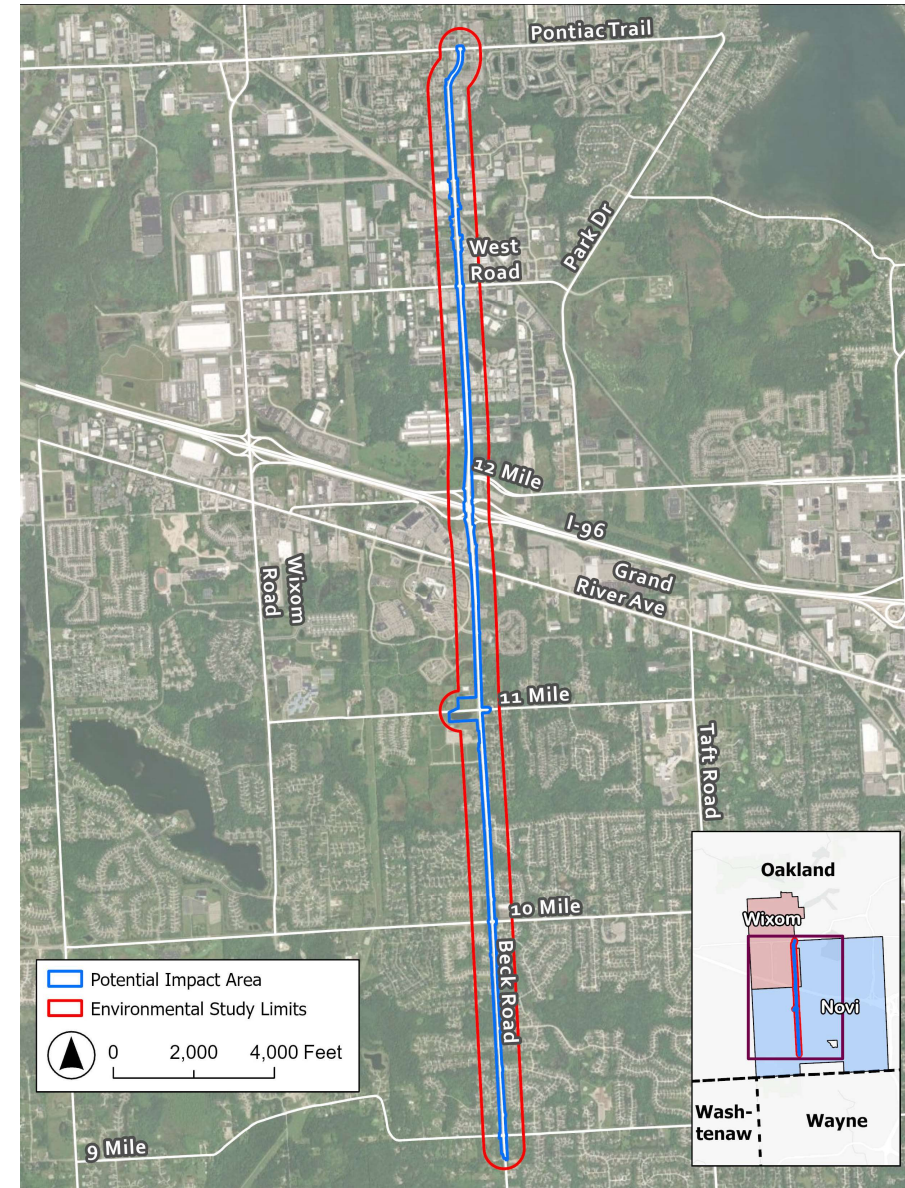
# Project Overview

## Project Background

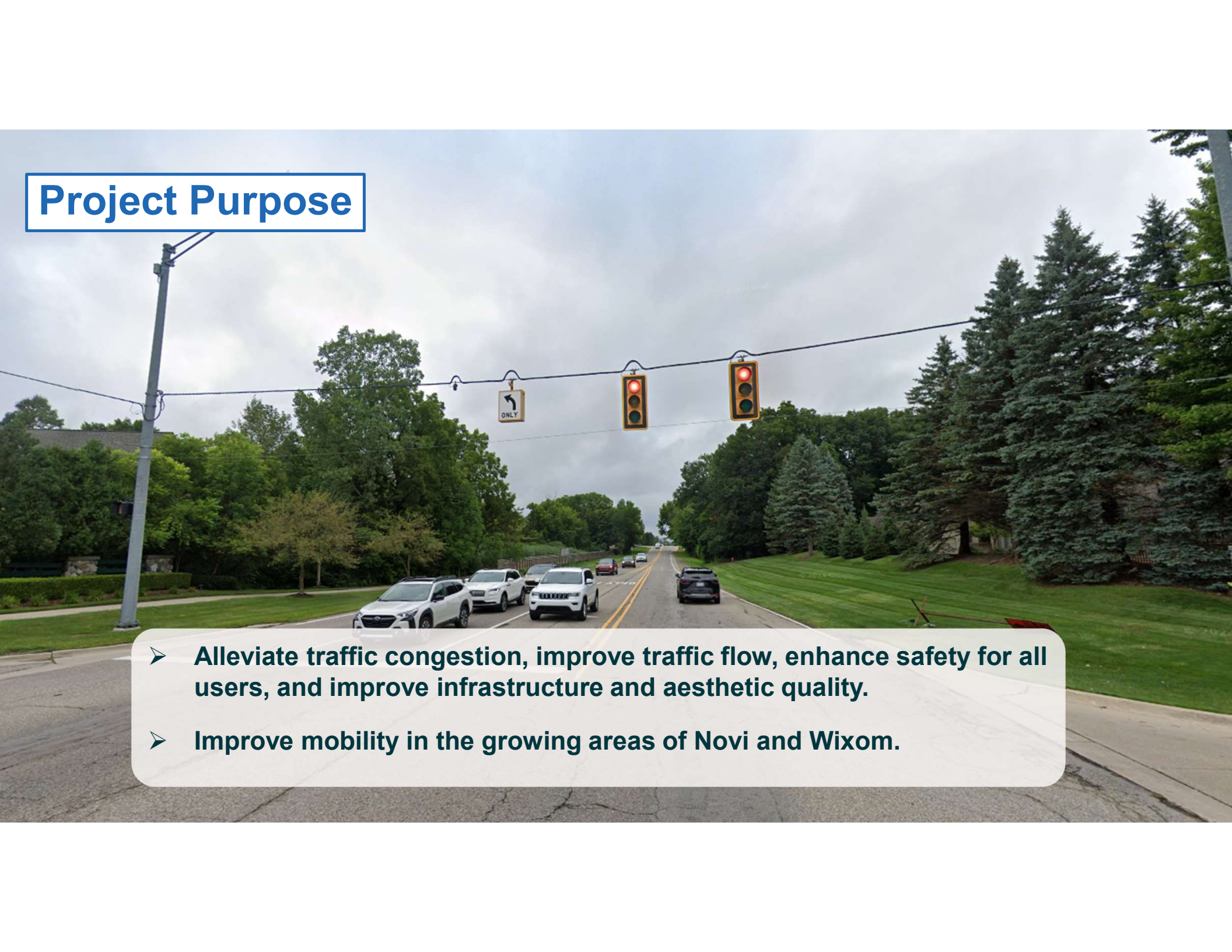
The cities of Novi and Wixom, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), are proposing the Beck Road Corridor Improvement Project to enhance and widen a 5.3-mile section of Beck Road in Oakland County.

## Project Limits

The proposed widening extends from south of 9 Mile Road in Novi to north of Pontiac Trail in Wixom, with a break in the project limits between Grand River Avenue and 12 Mile Road where Beck Road is already widened.



## Project Purpose

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- A photograph of a multi-lane road with traffic lights and lush greenery. The road is paved and has yellow double lines in the center. Several cars are visible, including a white SUV in the foreground. The traffic lights are hanging from a wire, and one is showing a red light. There are large trees on both sides of the road, and the sky is overcast.
- **Alleviate traffic congestion, improve traffic flow, enhance safety for all users, and improve infrastructure and aesthetic quality.**
  - **Improve mobility in the growing areas of Novi and Wixom.**



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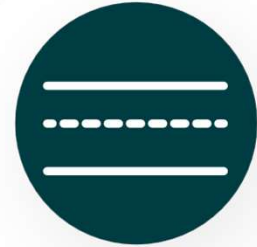
## Project Needs



**Insufficient Operational  
Capacity**



**High Crash  
Activity**



**Infrastructure  
Conditions**



**Aesthetic  
Conditions**



**Incomplete Multi-Modal  
Network**

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# Alternatives Development

## ➤ No-Build Alternative

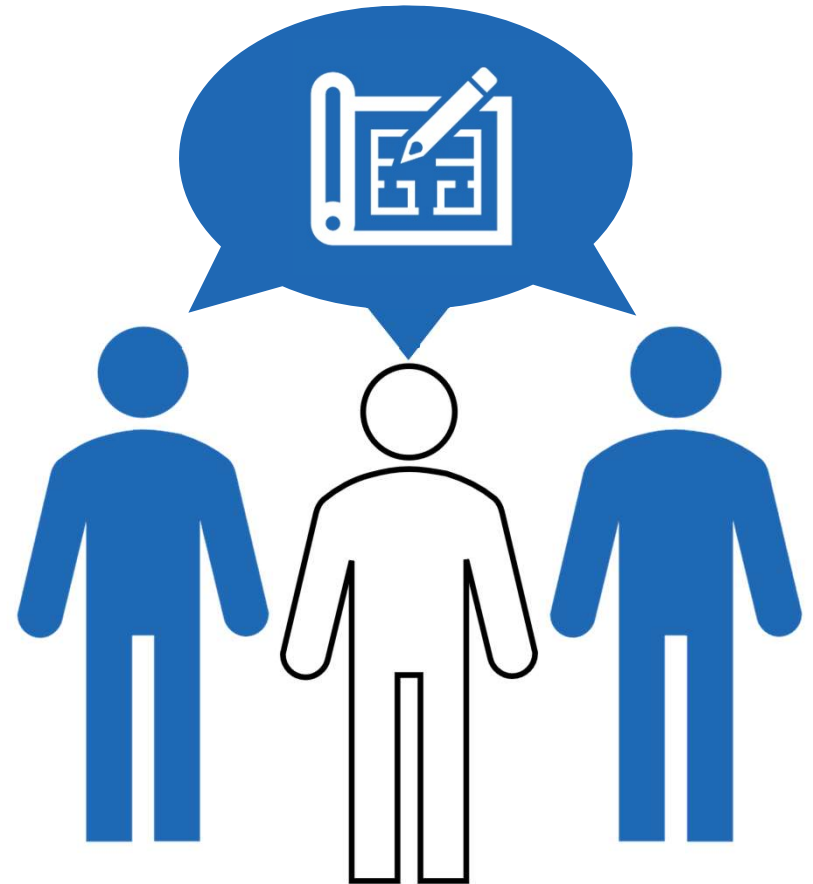
- Low financial investment and minimal disruption
- Fails to address safety and congestion issues

## ➤ Five-Lane Configuration

- Alleviates congestion and easier turning movements
- May introduce new safety concerns

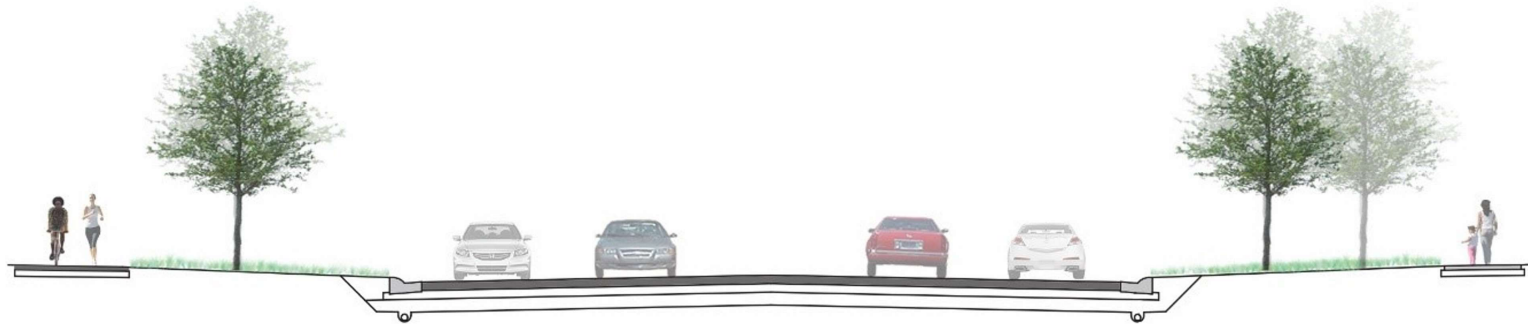
## ➤ Four-Lane Boulevard

- Alleviates congestion while enhancing aesthetics
- May restrict commercial and industrial access

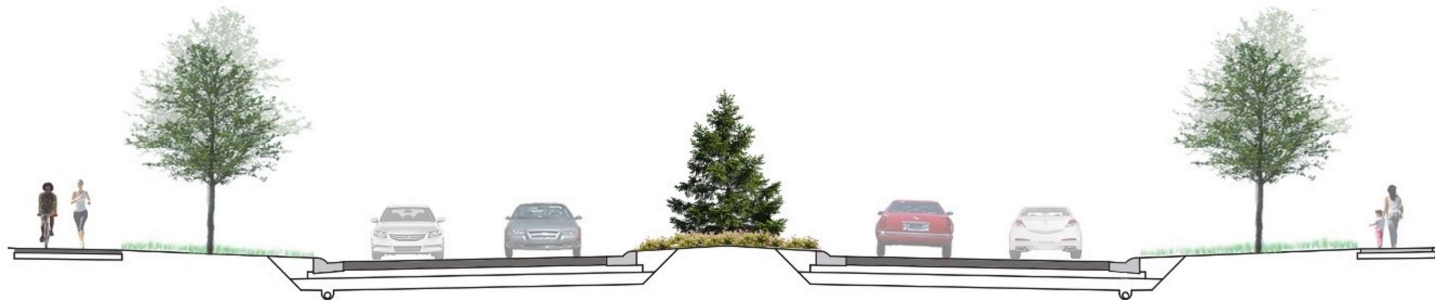


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## Hybrid Alternative



**Proposed 5-Lane Cross Section**

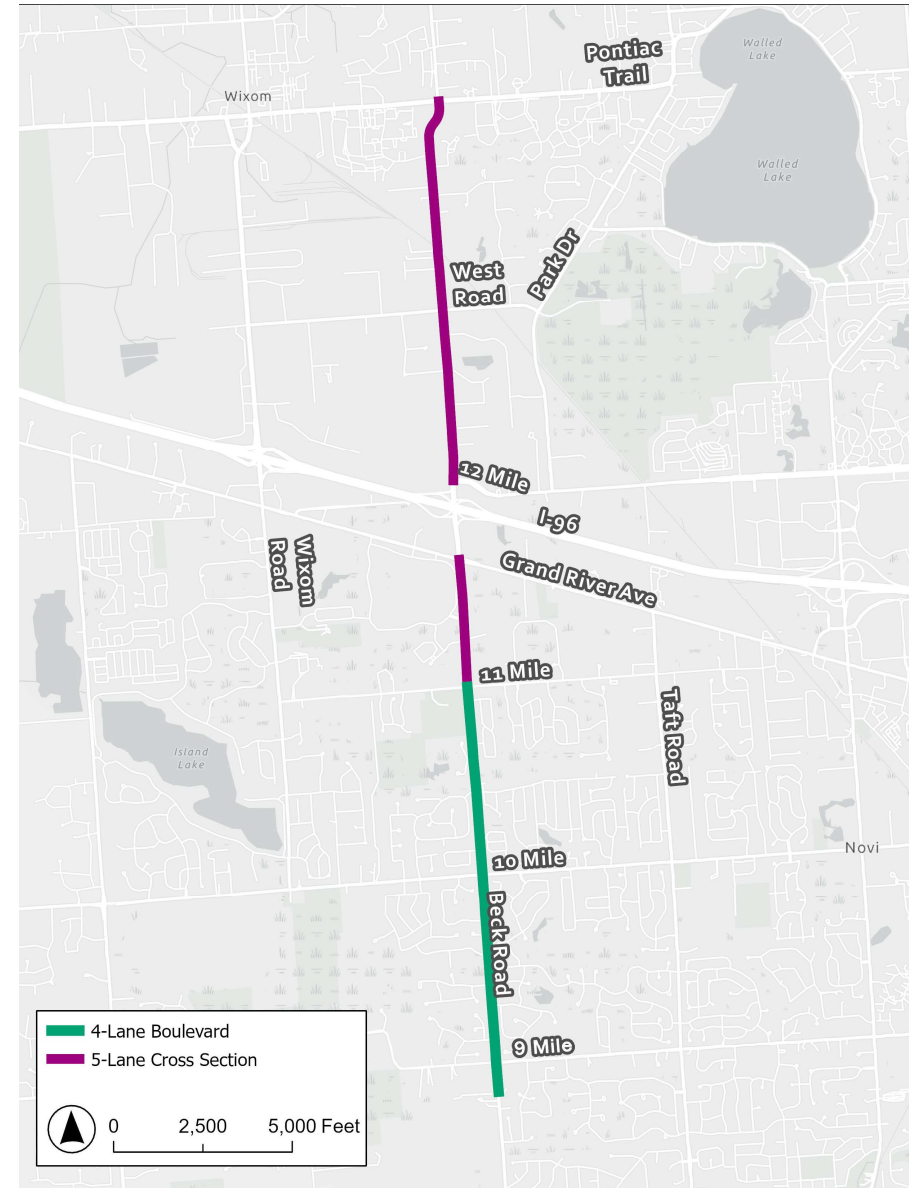


**Proposed 4-Lane Boulevard Section**

## Preferred Alternative

### ➤ Hybrid of Five-Lane Road and Four-Lane Boulevard

- Alleviates congestion throughout the corridor
- Addresses safety issues
- Eases commercial vehicle movements
- Enhances the aesthetics in residential areas



# NEPA Process

## ➤ What is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

Signed into law on Jan. 1, 1970, NEPA requires assessment of the environmental effects of federally funded projects prior to making decisions.

## ➤ What is an Environmental Assessment (EA)?

An EA is required when the significance of the environmental impacts are uncertain.

## ➤ What is the outcome of an EA?

After the EA, if there are no significant impacts associated with the project, FHWA will issue a **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**. The project team will move forward to the next phase of design and construction.



### The EA document:

- ✓ Is a concise public document (with text, figures, tables).
- ✓ Briefly provides evidence and analysis of resources present.
- ✓ Includes brief discussions of resources impacted and does not contain long descriptions or detailed data.
- ✓ Meets FHWA requirements for length.
- ✓ Seeks to obtain a FONSI issued by FHWA.



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# Environmental Assessment – Technical Components



## Wetlands/Watercourses

- A delineation identifies and surveys wetlands and watercourses.
- Discuss findings and assess preliminary impacts in the EA.



## Property Impacts

- Development of base plans and potential needs for property acquisition or easements.
- Assess and discuss potential needs in the EA.



## Noise Analysis

- Eight common noise environments (CNEs) were established.
- Five potential barriers were evaluated.

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## Environmental Assessment - Results



### **Wetland/Watercourses:**

- Approximately 2.7 acres of regulated wetlands will be impacted.



### **Property Impacts:**

- Approximately 14.6 acres of right of way (ROW) is required. This includes ~4 acres of residential, ~9.5 acres of commercial or industrial, and ~1 acre of public space.



### **Noise Analysis:**

- None of the studied noise barriers met the feasible and reasonable criteria established by FHWA. Therefore, no barriers are recommended.

**FHWA approved the EA for public release on April 29, 2025.  
The EA was published on the same day.**

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## Section 4(f) Properties

### Bosco Fields

- The proposed widening and roundabout will require approximately one acre of ROW from Bosco Fields.
- Access to Bosco Fields will be maintained during construction.
- It is anticipated the landscaped berm providing a visual and physical separation between the sidewalk and the soccer fields will remain during and after construction.
- Enhancement plantings will be strategically placed along the eastern edge of Bosco Fields if deemed necessary.





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## Mitigation – Natural Environment

### **Vegetation, Migratory Birds, Threatened and Endangered Species, and Contaminated Materials:**

- Mitigation items have been specifically chosen to fit the natural environment adjacent to the Project Area.

### **Water Quality and Stormwater:**

- The cities will obtain Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (EGLE) Permits.
- Novi and Wixom each hold individual MS4 permits that require the development, implementation, and enforcement of stormwater management programs under NPDES and follow best management practices (BMPs).





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## Mitigation – Wetlands

### Impacted Wetlands:

- The project will not impact more than 2.7 acres of regulated wetland.
- Wetland mitigation credits will be utilized from an existing wetland mitigation bank.





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# Mitigation – Social/Economic; Construction

## Social and Economic Environment:

- Notification of construction activities will be sent prior to the start of any required detours.

## Construction:

- The project will be constructed in accordance with regulatory standards and implement BMPs to minimize impacts.
- Construction will take place in stages, and it is hoped that detours will be minimal.

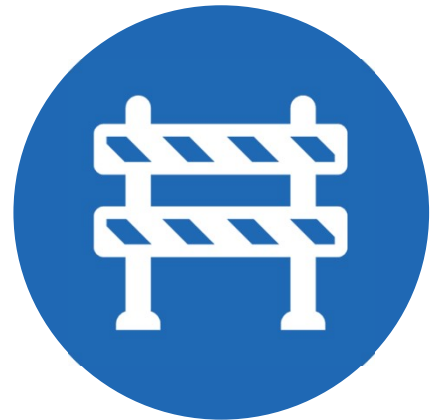




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## Project Schedule and Next Steps

- FHWA approved the Environmental Assessment: [4/29/2025](#)
- Public hearing: [5/14/2025](#)
- Public comment period closes: [5/28/2025](#)
- FHWA issues a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI): [July 2025](#)
- Real estate activities: [July 2025](#)
- Letting (11 Mile Rd to Grand River Ave only): [11/7/2025](#)
- Construction (11 Mile Rd to Grand River Ave only): [2026](#)



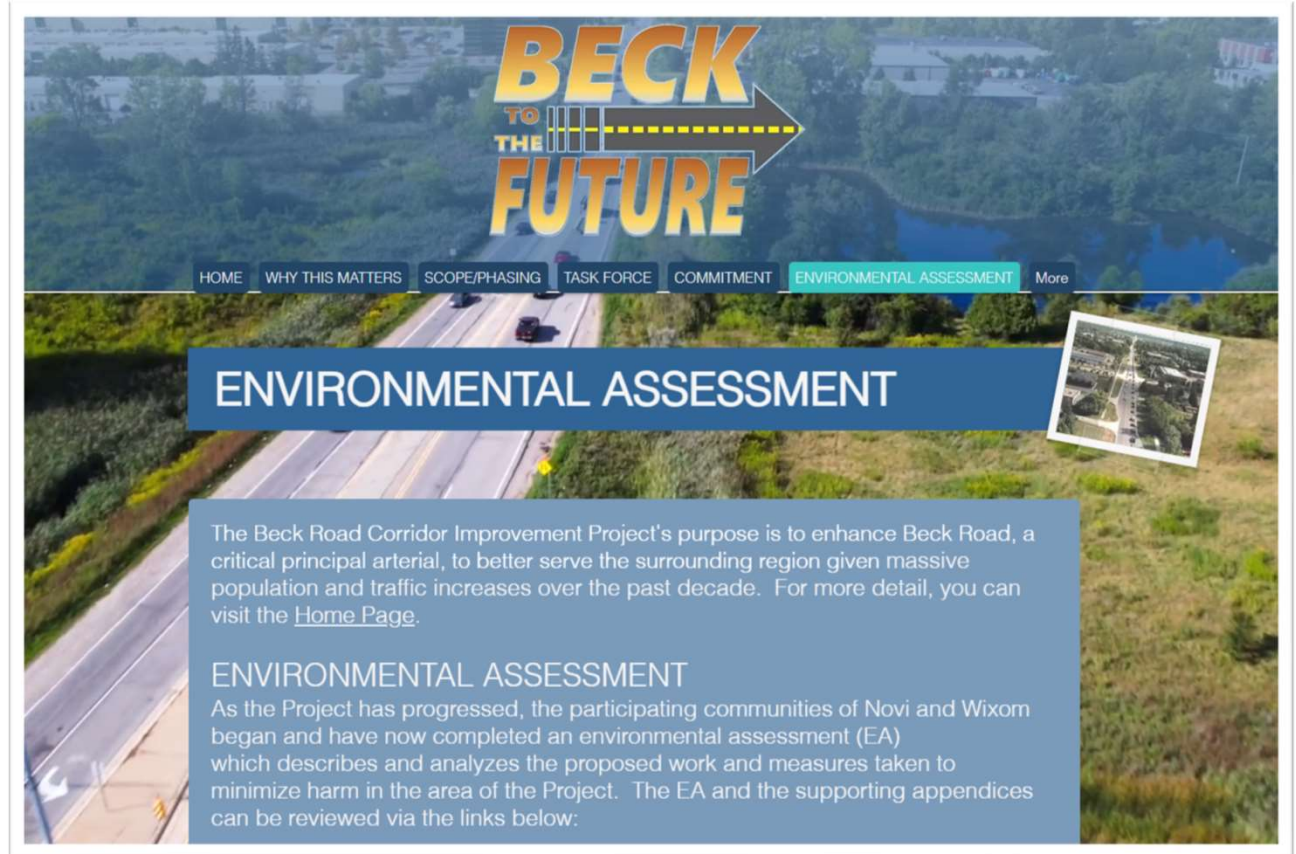
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## Online Public Review

### Project Website

[Becktothefuture.org](http://Becktothefuture.org)

- Project information
- Link to the EA document
- Link to all appendices
- Frequently asked questions





**Please Provide Formal Comment on the  
EA and/or the Preferred Alternative**

*Thank you for your participation! Your  
input is valuable for the Beck Road  
Corridor Improvement Project.*