

# Pebble Creek Bridge will be shut sooner

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Twelve Mile between Inkster and Middlebelt will be closed earlier than expected because of the planned reconstruction of the Pebble Creek Bridge.

The Oakland County Road Commission now plans to close the one-mile stretch of 12 Mile the week of May 4. Bridge reconstruction is expected to be completed within three and half to four months.

Originally, construction was to begin in mid-June with the summer closing of the schools.

"This is an abrupt change in the schedule we laid out," City Manager William Costick said.

The change in plans is due to the contractor's decision to begin the reconstruction project now. "They (Oakland County Road Commission)

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— William Costick  
— city manager

did not stipulate a schedule in their bids," Costick said.

The 12 Mile bridge, west of Inkster, between Herndonwood and Inkster, will be widened from its current two lanes to five lanes.

AN EARLIER construction date for the bridge means that the city's planned widening of the 13 Mile and Northwestern Highway intersection — that city officials wanted complete as bridge construction began — will be delayed until later in the summer.

The planned widening of 13 Mile west of Orchard Lake Road also will be changed. The project, which will include the closing of 13 Mile for several days, will be moved up to next week, Costick said.

City officials also had hoped that

resurfacing of 12 Mile, between Orchard Lake Road and Inkster, which was originally planned for mid-summer, would be complete with the opening of the reconstructed bridge. Though bids were not expected to be taken until early June, efforts will be made to speed up the process, Costick said.

The county road commission planned to have only one detour route to 11 Mile during bridge reconstruction. Detour traffic will travel 11 Mile while Mercy High School, on the northeast corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt, is still in session.

THE FARMINGTON Hills City Council, however, adopted a resolution requesting detours to both 11 and 13 Mile roads. They also requested synchronized traffic lights on 11 Mile, reduced speed limits and possibly another detour to 10 Mile.

Some council members asked for a traffic light on 11 Mile to allow traffic to get in and out of the neighboring subdivisions. But Costick told the council that perhaps a police officer will be stationed along 11 Mile to guide traffic and determine potential problems with the detours.



Pebble Creek Bridge, slated for repair this spring, is on 12 Mile, west of Inkster.

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## Drinking can kill a good time

Continued from Page 3

ING: Driving After Drinking 6 of These Will Increase Your Chance of a Fatal Crash By 100 Times," placing the warning "at the point of decision-making." It would make teenagers well-aware of the dangers of drinking and driving, he said.

MOST TEENAGERS know the risks of a fatal crash increase with drinking, he said.

But they believe that after a six-pack of beer they might be 7.5 times more likely to die in a fatal crash, Phelps said. "They're shocked when I tell them how much their chances of being killed increase by drinking.

"The highest guess I got was 25 times higher," Phelps said. "In truth, when I came up with the number, I thought I had made a numerical mistake. But I checked it several times."

He came up with the statistic by comparing three different surveys.

One was a federal survey of thousands of teenagers and their drinking habits. Another looked at the number

of teenagers who die in car accidents. The third examined the blood-alcohol level of teenagers who were killed in crashes in 15 states where autopsies were required.

The "100 times higher" number was confirmed in a Canadian study, Phelps said.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

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