



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

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PRESS RELEASE

Saugatuck Township Takes Steps to Address Intersection Concerns

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (Saugatuck Township, Allegan County, Michigan) November 16, 2021

This past summer has seen an increase in accidents at the intersection of Old Allegan Rd. and Blue Star Hwy. The high visibility of these accidents has created a community discussion among residents and its elected and appointed Boards and Commissions. At the June 9, 2021, Township Board Meeting, the Township Board took action and adopted Resolution No. 2021-05: Requesting That Allegan County Road Commission Conduct A Road Study To Place A Traffic Light At Old Allegan Rd. and Blue Star Hwy.. This was a requirement from the Allegan County Road Commission to move forward on identifying solutions for this intersection. As the advocates for the Townships residents, the Township Board is working with the custodians of the roads to address the concerns of residents in the short and long term.

The Township has already worked with the Allegan County Road Commission to start the process and make short term gains. This includes the start of a study for the implementation of a traffic light. The Township is also looking at the installation of “high-visibility” pedestrian crossing signage as well as radar speed signs. The Township also worked to clear the edge of the roadway to allow for greater visibility. The Township Board took action at their November 12, 2021, meeting to order and install a set of radar speed signs along Bluestar Highway. These steps are all to address the concerns of residents for the short term.

Over the next year the Township will be working on a new method of public engagement related to road maintenance and projects. This process will allow the public to have input into identifying road projects. This information will be included with Township Engineers and the Allegan County Road Commission recommendations. This process will allow for residents to bring their concerns to the attention of the Township Board and Allegan County Road Commission. This new public engagement process will be implemented annually to create possible projects for the road plan in two years’ time. The time delay is due to the nature of identifying projects, conduct the engineering, scheduling road projects, and adequately funding the projects. Road projects can range from thousands to millions of dollars. The Township Board has adopted as its vision and goal to be committed to excellence, financial stability, and works to engage and collaborate with its municipal partners and residents.

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