

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 14, 2020 **Contact:** Marianne Gamboa **Email:** <u>mgamboa@bhamgov.org</u> **Phone:** 248-530-1812

Birmingham Finalizes Maple Road Reconstruction Agreement with MDOT

Development will provide new underground infrastructure, wider sidewalks and more.

BIRMINGHAM, Mich. – During uncertain times the City of Birmingham wants to assure residents that important infrastructure improvement projects will continue in order to address the City's aging infrastructure needs. The City has finalized arrangements with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and is working to establish a Maple Road Reconstruction Project start date with the Warren-based Angelo Iafrate Construction Company. The project will reconstruct Maple Road from Southfield to Woodward and is anticipated to begin in early May and last approximately four (4) months.

Angelo Iafrate is the same contractor that managed the award-winning Old Woodward Reconstruction Project. This time around, the project will be completed in conjunction with MDOT, which awarded the City a \$700,000 grant to support Maple Road reconstruction.

"We're pleased to continue the necessary improvements to a key segment of our aging infrastructure," said Birmingham City Manager Joe Valentine. "Recent events have made it difficult to identify a clear start date, however, in current discussions with Iafrate we are tentatively targeting the week of May 4th. We will begin providing weekly updates on the project through our notification system which we encourage everyone to sign up for."

Similar to Old Woodward, the Maple Road Reconstruction Project is driven by the need to replace existing water mains and sewer lines. It will also enhance the aesthetics and functionality of downtown Birmingham and improve walkability. Key elements coming to Maple Road include new underground infrastructure, new streetlights, new irrigation system, improved landscaping and on-street parking, granite bench seating and cell phone charging stations, improved ADA parking and access, a new midblock crossing for increased pedestrian safety, and the realignment of Southfield Road at Maple to reduce sharp turns and lessen congestion in the area.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for weekly project updates at <u>www.bit.ly/bhamnews</u>. Learn more about the project at <u>www.bhamgov.org/maplereconstruction</u>.

City of Birmingham – A Walkable Community. Visit the city's web site at <u>www.bhamgov.org</u>