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Complete Streets Construction to Begin on Pleasant Street

Today Mayor David J. Narkewicz announced that Complete Streets construction on Pleasant Street is slated to begin next week. Extending from Hockanum Road to Hampton Avenue, the project will include two raised crosswalks and one raised intersection in combination with curb extensions, a reconfigured Hockanum Road/Pleasant Street intersection, street trees, a rain garden, buffered (protected) bicycle lanes between Hockanum Road and Holyoke Street, and a large amount of sidewalk and curb replacements.

“This exciting project will help transform the Pleasant Street corridor from an outmoded state highway into a modern, business-friendly city street that is safer for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians,” said Mayor Narkewicz. “These improvements continue the work begun last year with the construction of the Pleasant Street/Conz Street roundabout.”

Earlier this year, the City of Northampton received \$2.9 million dollars in state funding for the Pleasant Street corridor through a \$2.5 million MassWorks public infrastructure grant in combination with a \$400,000 MassDOT Complete Streets grant. These major grants will fund both the street improvements and a separate project beginning later this summer to replace a massive underground brick sewer on Holyoke Street that was built in 1840. Taken together, these public investments and the related roundabout project are leveraging some of the largest economic and housing development projects on Pleasant Street in three decades.

Construction activity on Pleasant Street is expected to begin the week of April 17, 2017 and continue through September. The City has contracted with JBL Construction Company of Springfield, MA to complete the project, which will begin at Hockanum Road with the installation of drainage and new curbing. Signage for the work could begin going up as early as today.
