

KIMBERLEY, ALEXANDRA, AND SWIFT RUN AREAS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Ann Arbor Gravel Roads
Drainage Management Study - Phase Two
November 2025

PHASE TWO (2025) PROJECT LIMITS

Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas

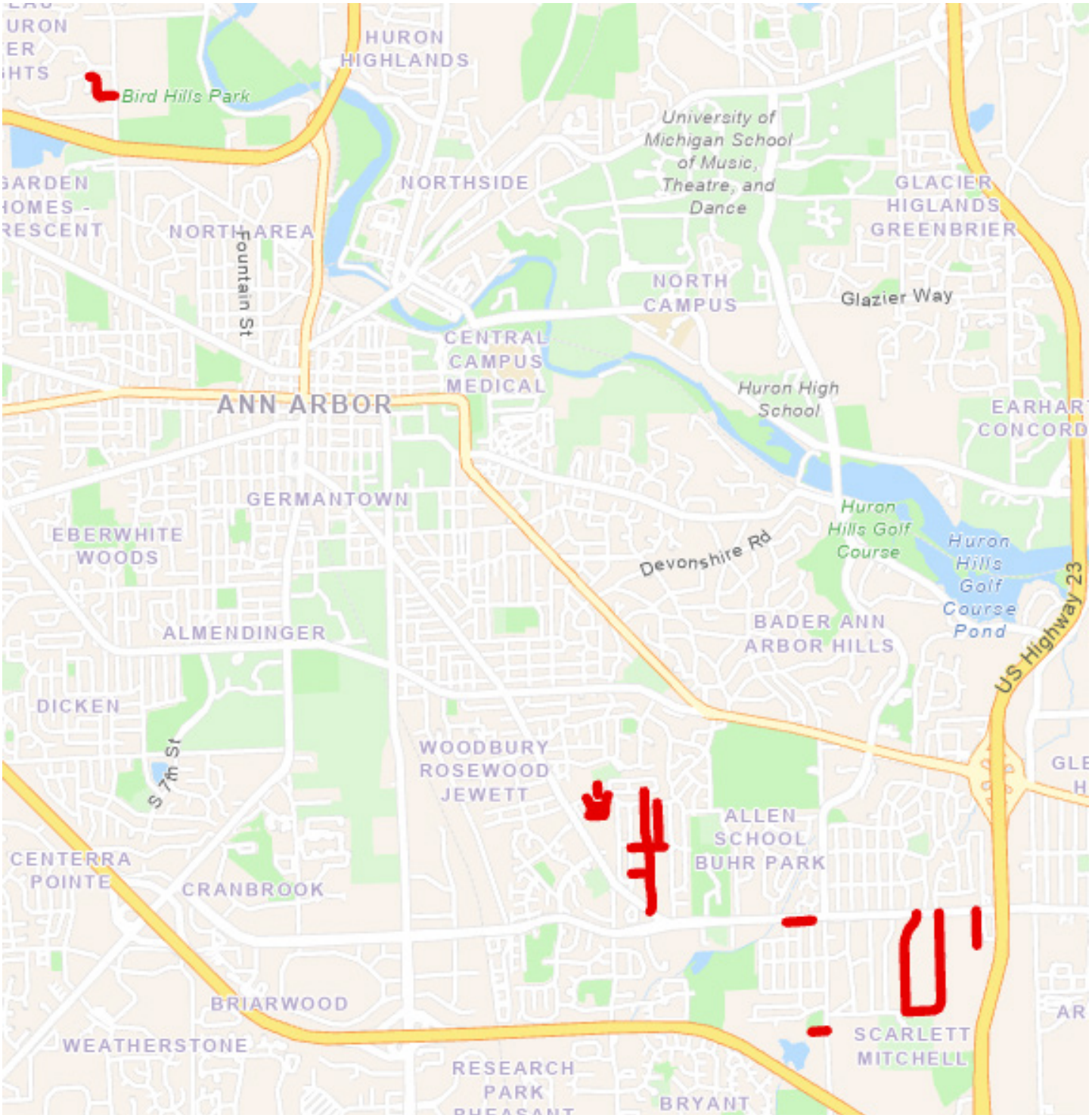


TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1.0 - Executive Summary 4

SECTION 2.0 - Public Listening Summary 5

SECTION 3.0 - Ann Arbor Gravel Road Drainage Management Study Website 6

SECTION 4.0 - Public Information Website 7

SECTION 5.0 - One-on-One Discussions 10

SECTION 6.0 - Open House 11

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1.0 - The City of Ann Arbor Webpage for the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study 6

FIGURE 2.0 - Interactive Map Window Used for Observation Reporting for the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas 7

FIGURE 3.0 - Graphic Displaying Timeline from Resident Comments to Recommendation 8

FIGURE 4.0 - Postcard Delivered to Residents of the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas at the Beginning of Study Phase Two 9

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1.0 - Display of Streets in the Phase 2 that Submitted Observations and the Corresponding Observation Type 8

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1.0 - Fall 2024 Meeting Video, Presentation (PDF) and Questions

APPENDIX 2.0 - Recommendation Bracket

APPENDIX 3.0 - Recommendation Bracket with Public Input

APPENDIX 4.0 - Comments Received

SECTION 1.0 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The study area for Phase Two of the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study is the KimberYey, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas in the City of Ann Arbor. These areas drain into three distinct creeksheds: Malletts Creek, Lower Middle Huron, Swift Run, and finally, directly into the Huron River. The conditions of the Phase Two gravel roads have worsened with time. Over the last eight years, the City of Ann Arbor has received over 400 calls from subdivision residents about road conditions and stormwater related concerns.

The study team developed a public engagement process to ensure that residents were provided with opportunities to discuss their specific concerns. For each Phase of the three-year study, the study team follows the process below:

- Open the Gravel Roads Drainage Observation Reporter (mapping tool) and provide a link on the City's project webpage
- Send postcards to residents notifying them of the study and future opportunities for input
- Host a public listening session to introduce the study scope and solicit resident feedback
- Schedule in-person one-on-one discussions with residents over a three day period
- Schedule an Open House to discuss Phase Two recommendations

Through this public engagement process, the study team collects photo documentation, location specific concerns, and other information. All input received is incorporated in the final report and is a valuable component in helping City staff and officials make informed decisions in the future.

SECTION 2.0 - PUBLIC LISTENING SUMMARY

On October 9, 2024, a virtual meeting was arranged to present information on Phase Two of the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study for the City of Ann Arbor. The meeting was hosted by Community Engagement Specialists Michelle Bennett and Jasmine Issac-Ofori, and Water Quality Manager Jennifer Lawson. This meeting's goal was to inform attendees about the City's stormwater management program and provide the public with an opportunity to deliver input based on their experiences in the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas. The presentation specifically asked, "What do you want to know from us....?", to effectively address residents' inquiries.

The meeting commenced with a structured agenda designed to ensure productivity and efficiency, encompassing a stormwater management overview, a discussion on Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas' drainage history, and concluded with a Q&A period. During the meeting, information was disseminated regarding the City's stormwater management program, resident inquiries were addressed, and realistic expectations for the Study's progression were established.

A comprehensive timeline of stormwater history for Phase Two Areas was presented to provide context for previous studies, plans, and implementations. Emphasizing a long-term approach, the goal of the study is to deliver sustainable stormwater management solutions to mitigate the adverse impacts on subdivisions, diverging from previous short-term remedies.

This meeting marked a pivotal step in fostering community engagement and inclusivity, essential for achieving a positive outcome in the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study. To view the meeting, visit: Oct. 9, 2024 Kimberley, Alexandra and Swift Run Areas Stormwater Management Information Session - YouTube (https://youtu.be/kRKwYKqKq4s?si=0L89siQkKmqoPbYS).

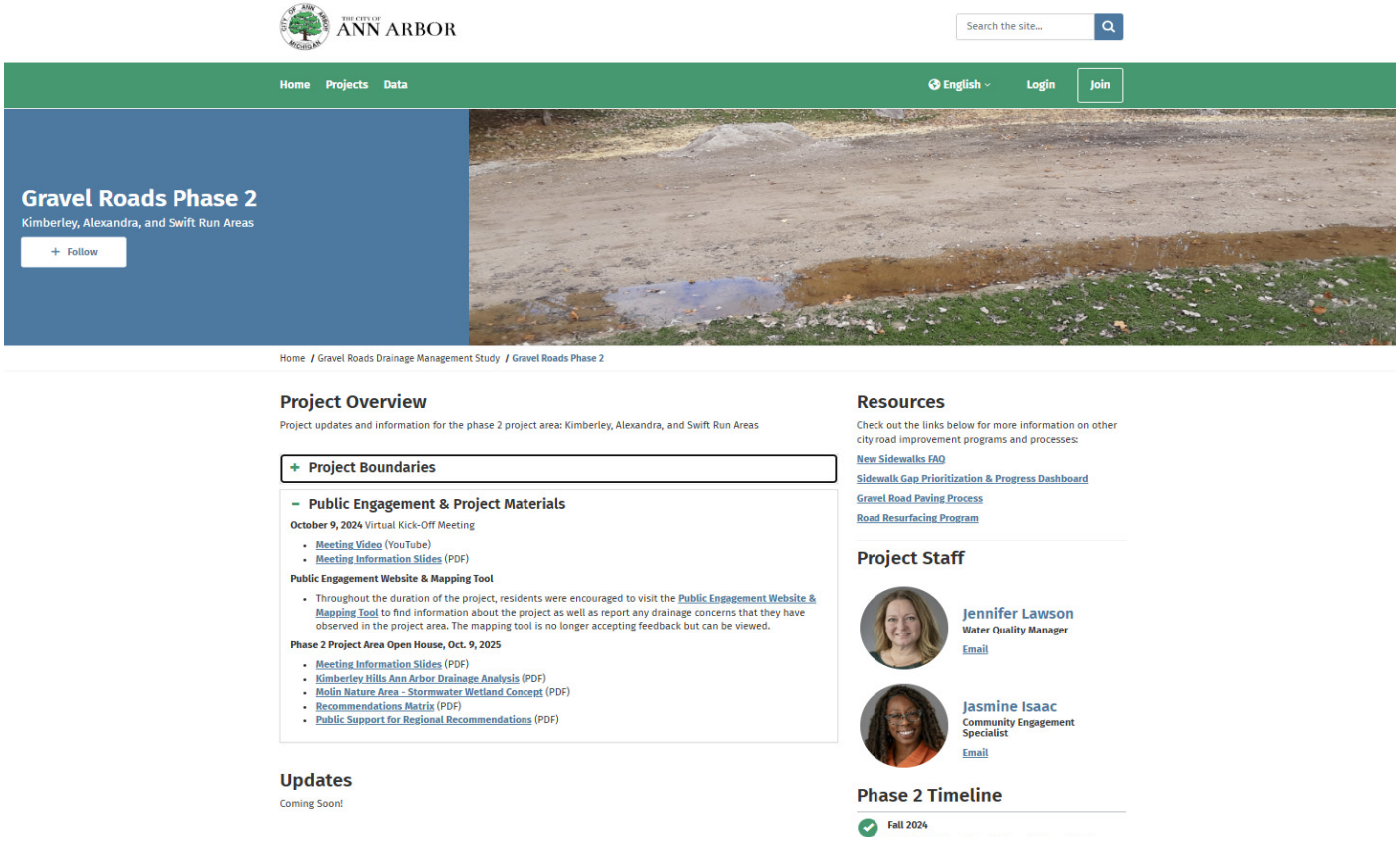
SECTION 3.0 - ANN ARBOR GRAVEL ROAD DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT STUDY WEBPAGE

For Phase Two of the study, the City of Ann Arbor transitioned from the original Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study webpage, to a new platform called Engage Ann Arbor, a website used by the City to display information for all active, open and closed projects.

The webpage for the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study comprehensively outlines the project scope, timeline, geographical limits, engagement opportunities, an interactive map of City-maintained gravel roads, and the option to subscribe to notifications for project updates. The Project Manager and Community Engagement Specialist have direct contact information on this platform to facilitate community outreach as necessary.

This detailed webpage articulates the rationale driving this project, which is rooted in the prevalence of drainage issues, localized flooding, and standing water afflicting numerous properties within the City of Ann Arbor. *Figure 1.0* shows the webpage display of previous, current, and upcoming engagement opportunities. Notably, community members are given the opportunity to actively participate in addressing their drainage concerns and stay informed about previous engagements by accessing resources such as the Fall 2024 meeting recording on YouTube and the presentation slides in PDF format.

Figure 1.0: The City of Ann Arbor webpage for the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study.

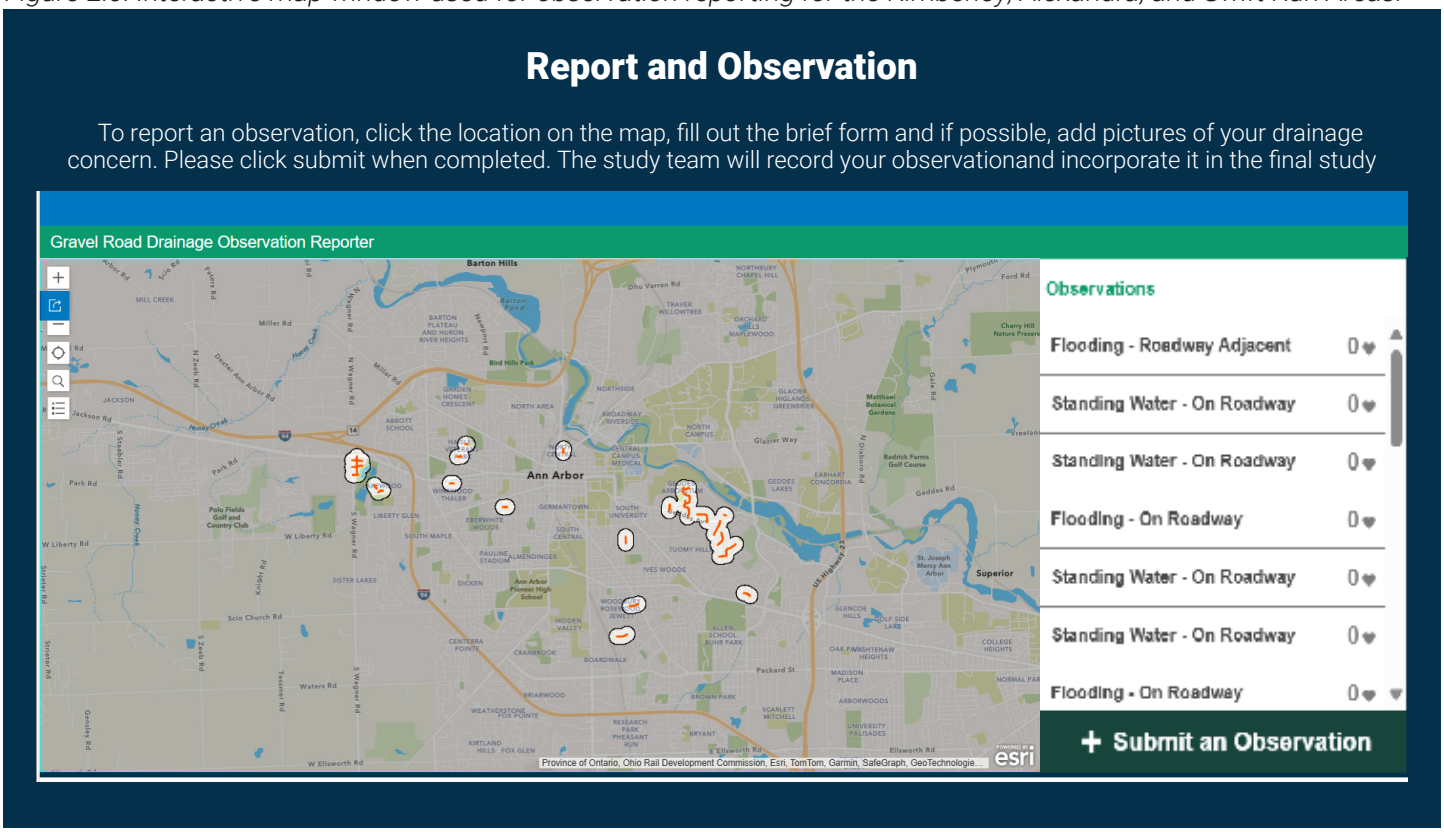


SECTION 4.0 - PUBLIC INFORMATION WEBSITE

Part of the public engagement strategy was to create an interactive public engagement website for the community to provide comments and submit concerns and photographs. The public engagement website, provides an opportunity for the public to paint a picture of existing conditions by submitting observations, noting areas of concerns and sharing images of past stormwater flooding.

Clear and comprehensive instructions are provided for utilizing the interactive map depicted in *Figure 2.0,* labeled "Gravel Road Drainage Observation Reporter." This functionality empowers the public to "submit an observation" either as an image or text to provide information about the drainage concerns they have observed. Once submitted, each observation is added to the study.

Figure 2.0: Interactive map window used for observation reporting for the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas.



The Study Team is able to overlay the observations submitted with other map related data. Other data includes existing drainage structures, topographic variations and bodies of water. The goal is to verify areas of known flooding as observed by residents and determine what existing infrastructure and land contours are excelerating storwmwater collection. Public observations are key to the progress and outcomes of this Study.

SECTION 4.0 - PUBLIC INFORMATION WEBSITE (CONTINUED)

All submissions have been recorded and analyzed, accounting for diverse road conditions, locations, and weather. *Table 1.0* presents the street names within the the Kimberley, Alexandra and Swift Run Areas, accompanied by the corresponding observation type, and number of comments made regarding the observation. A total of 26 comments were documented and analyzed.

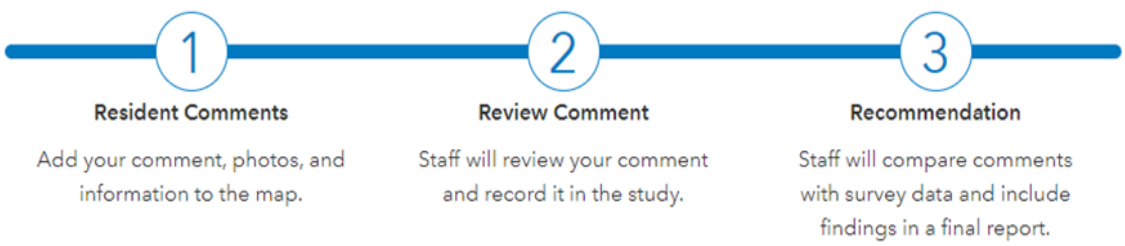
Table 1.0: Display of streets in Phase Two that submitted observations and the corresponding observation type.

Street Name	Observation Type
Kimberley Road	Washout (2) On Roadway (2) Culvert/Pipe (1) Roadway Adjacent (1) Other (2)
Joseph Street	Roadway Adjacent (1) On Roadway (4)
Columbia Street	Washout (1)
Pittsview Drive	On Roadway (4)
Powell Avenue	Other (1)

Among these submissions, 16 highlighted instances of flooding or standing water in the roads, private yards, and homes. Seven submissions mentioned blocked/clogged stormwater drains from runoff after storms and grading. Five submissions cited steep/elevated driveways and lowered streets due to grading.

The website hosts various informative graphics to display observation trends. *Figure 3.0* provides a step-by-step timeline that clarifies the process through which comments are reviewed and incorporated into survey data and final reports by staff members. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) are readily accessible with complete answers to address common inquiries at the bottom of the webpage.

Figure 3.0: Graphic displaying timeline from resident comments to recommendation.



SECTION 4.0 - PUBLIC INFORMATION WEBSITE (CONTINUED)

This public information flyer was mailed out to all residents in the study area, notifying them of the Phase Two Study and opportunities for input.

Figure 4.0: Postcard sent out to residents of the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas at the beginning of Phase Two.







GRAVEL ROADS DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT STUDY

Phase 2 Project Site Walkabouts

Kimberley, Alexandra and Swift Run Areas

The study team is offering walkabouts for the Phase 2 Project Area in Spring 2025. Residents will be able to share questions and concerns with staff at this time. Scan the QR code or visit the website below to reserve a time slot for a one-on-one walkabout with a project team member.

Scan the QR code to select a time slot.

Visit the website for additional project details:

https://url.a2gov.org/GravelRoadPhase2

SECTION 5.0 - ONE-ON-ONE DISCUSSIONS

A pivotal aspect of the public engagement strategy for the Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study involved the project team hosting one-on-one discussions. These discussions were scheduled over three days and were organized with site visits within the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas. Participants were given the opportunity to physically explore the designated project areas with staff, enabling them to directly observe and articulate their concerns regarding gravel road maintenance and drainage issues. Specifically, these one-on-one discussions served as valuable opportunities for project leaders to actively engage with community members, gather feedback, address questions or concerns, and foster transparent communication and community engagement. The discussions were conducted on:

- April 23, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- April 25, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- April 26, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Each one-on-one discussion lasted approximately 30 minutes. There were two project teams available to meet at any time, therefore, two appointments would often be scheduled at the same time, one for each project team. This was done to further accommodate the residents of the study area. Sixteen appointments were scheduled over the three-day period with one day-of cancellation, for a total of 15 appointments. Residents in the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas who had not registered for an appointment, came outside to proactively engage with staff during the discussions, taking the opportunity to discuss their concerns directly.

During these one-on-one discussions, emphasis was placed on the availability of the digital mapping tools. Community members were encouraged to utilize these resources to upload photos or provide comments regarding any areas of concern within the study limits.

SECTION 6.0 - OPEN HOUSE



Phase Two: Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas of the Ann Arbor Gravel Roads Drainage Management Study concluded with an Open House on October 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Malletts Creek Branch Library in Ann Arbor. The event was attended by 34 residents, including two children, and offered a valuable opportunity for more residents to learn about the purpose and progress of Phase Two.

The Open House started with a comprehensive overview of the project and data collection methods used for in-depth analysis. The presentation then detailed topography of the Phase Two Areas as well as key findings and plans specific to the Kimberley, Alexandra, and Swift Run Areas.

The project team presented the recommendations bracket that addressed potential improvements at the maintenance, local capital improvement, or regional levels. To facilitate active engagement, a multi-stationed brainstorming session encouraged attendees to move freely through stations, ask questions, and share feedback directly with the project team. Residents were also invited to participate in a visual feedback exercise by placing green or red stickers on the recommendations pertaining to their address or street; green indicated support and red indicated opposition.

SECTION 6.0 - OPEN HOUSE (CONTINUED)

The majority of both maintenance and local capital improvement recommendations received strong support during the visual feedback exercise. Residents supported all recommended maintenance efforts re-establish ditches, assess culverts and clear blockages, grade/regrade road, and maintenance after rain events. The only exception was the recommendation to re-establish ditches along 2000-2098 Columbia Street, which received three opposing stickers.

Among the local capital improvement recommendations, the most supported were:

- Developing Retention, Sediment, or Debris Management Areas
- Developing Stormwater Infrastructure to Molin Nature Area and Direct Water to Area

The maintenance and local capital improvement recommendations received predominately “in-support” stickers, likely because these types of recommendations are maintained through City funding.

The regional solution, paving curb and gutter, received significant opposition, with 12 “in-support” stickers and 25 “opposing” stickers. It is estimated that the high amount of opposition stems from the high cost burden that would be placed on the homeowner when paving and adding curb and gutter. Additionally, several residents voiced concerns during the meeting, stating they intentionally chose to live on a gravel road because of its unique characteristics, such as minimal lighting, reduced noise and less traffic, and fear that paving the road will destroy the rural atmosphere they desire.

APPENDIX A - FALL 2024 MEETING VIDEO, PRESENTATION SLIDES (PDF) & QUESTIONS

The link to the recorded virtual meeting on October 9, 2024 can be found at: https://youtu.be/kRKwYKqKq4s?si=vMREmsW9RbVeoI1g

Below are the Listening Session Question Report and presentation slides from October 9, 2024. All questions were addressed during the Listening Session.

Question Report	
Report Generated:	11/12/2024 10:
Topic	
Kimberly, Alexandra and Swift Run Areas Stormwater Management Information Session	
Question Details	
#	Question
1	Very glad to hear that paving the road is a last resort because I love living on a gravel road and look forward to meeting the surveying team.
2	Will the walk abouts be announced a few weeks prior to the date to be able to take time off to be present?
3	Could you mention once again where to submit issues about drainage on private property?
4	Thank you for the info I'll be watching the website and following over time.

APPENDIX B - RECOMMENDATION BRACKET

APPENDIX C - RECOMMENDATION BRACKET WITH PUBLIC INPUT

APPENDIX D - COMMENTS RECEIVED