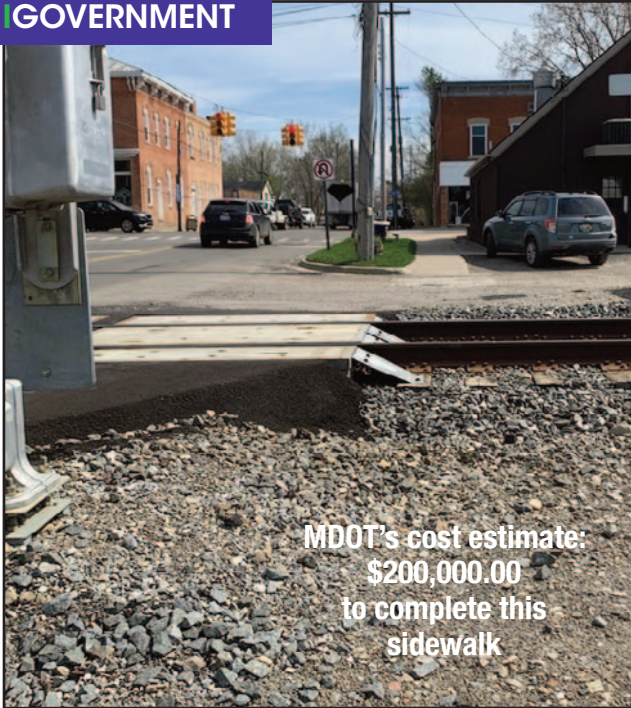




MAY 2023

GOVERNMENT



MDOT's cost estimate:
\$200,000.00
to complete this
sidewalk

Village officials met with State Senator Sue Shink on Friday April 14 to discuss how to solve our missing sidewalk dilemma. The Senator noted that a safe, walkable path is important to the Village, and that the railroad track sits between the downtown and its beautiful lakefront park. Our Village deserves safe, accessible pedestrian passage across the tracks. Council continues its search for potential funding grants for this public safety issue.

The response to last year's question for why our sole railroad crossing sidewalk is not complete on both sides of Lake street has been complicated and frustrating. MDOT and AMTRAK disagreed on a solution; nothing moved forward. The Village persisted and by fall was granted a Diagnostic Study Team Review (DSTR) that took place in November, after AMTRAK's scheduled repair work added asphalt to the East side of this sidewalk crossing. (If this work does not meet ADA requirements, the improvement could be removed—AMTRAK went beyond its required task.) All parties at the DSTR admitted the need, but concluded any sidewalk improvement is a Village expenditure, to be constructed per requirements of MDOT and AMTRAK, at a \$200,000. estimate.

COMMUNITY NEWS

■ **Opening Day:** Wednesday, May 3 marks the opening of the 2023 season of the **Grass Lake Farmers Market** at the Events Pavilion. Every Wednesday, from 4 pm to 7 pm, through September, local vendors are selling produce, foods, and a variety of wares—so that you may buy local. Also, local businesses market their services. Great opportunities.

■ **Music :** Wednesday, May 3 kicks off **Music in the Park's** summer offerings at the Events Pavilion from 6:30 pm until 8pm, with a roster of entertainers for your listening pleasure, scheduled on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, through September.

■ **Museum Day:** Saturday, May 13. Local museums are free entry with much for the public to enjoy. Check out our own venues, **The Lost Railway Museum** and **Coe House**, plus more throughout Jackson County. Check the hours too.

■ **Thank our American Legion, Grass Lake Laundromat, and VFW:** Flags in the downtown are placed by our local military Posts, with flag cleaning donated by Grass Lake Laundromat on Lake St.

■ **Memorial Day:** The Observance Service will take place on Monday May 29 @ 10 am, at the Veteran's Memorial on Michigan Ave. Following the service, a procession

(Continued)

■ The **Village office** will be closed on Tuesday, May 2. The building is Precinct 3 for a Special Election held for renewal of the County's millage for the Jackson County ISD. <https://www.jcisd.org/millage>

■ **Meetings:** All meetings take place at the Village Hall with the public invited.
• The Village **Planning Commission:** Thursday, May 4 @ 7:30 pm.
• The **DDA** regularly meets monthly on the second Monday (May 8) @ 6:30 pm.
• Tuesday, May 16 is the regular **Village Council** meeting in May @ 7:00 pm.

■ **Your Role:** Residents are encouraged to review the Village Council packets—including an agenda—posted on the Village website about a week in advance of regular

(Continued)

A kindly reminder: Do NOT flush any of the following items into our Village sewer system:

- **Wipes** (this includes all baby wipes, moist wipes, disinfectant wipes, etc.)
- **Diapers** (cloth, disposable, "flushable")
- **Facial tissues**
- **Toilet bowl scrub pads**
- **Swiffer's**
- **Paper napkins/guest towels**
- **Paper towels**
- **Dental floss**
- **Hair**
- **Cigarette butts**
- **Personal hygiene items** (Sanitary napkins, tampons, condoms, all non-organic)
- **Egg shells, nutshells**
- **Coffee grounds**
- **Fats, oils, and greases**
- **Food seeds and peelings**
- **Wash cloths, towels, cloth napkins, rags**
- **Clothing** (none)
- **Sheet plastic** (no plastic of any kind)
- **Vitamins, medicines or other pharmaceuticals**

GOVERNMENT, continued

meetings. These postings (click on the words, **Meetings and Agendas**) allow all readers to know about items planned for discussion, and to give members of the public some time to have their opinions heard by your representatives before decisions are voted upon—either ahead of the meeting or in allotted public comment time.

Stay abreast of issues and ask questions to Village staff and elected workers for the best impact on items being considered, and to add pertinent data to the process. Your Village Manager and Trustees are reachable by phone or appointment during business hours, or via email – contact information is also posted on the website.

■ **Discovered:** An old gravestone was unearthed at a house being remodeled on N. Lake Street in the Village and was brought to the Village Hall. Evidently it had been used as foundation for the front steps. Marilyn O'Leary put in hours of research time to find out more about it; her findings are posted on Grass Lake Michigan History

on Facebook. The Gravestone may now be viewed at the Coe House Museum.



■ **Golf carts are licensed for driving on Village streets:** § 71.03 of the Village ordinances deals with Golf Carts. Please contact the Village Clerk for information. Golf carts are to be operated only during daytime hours, at a driving speed limit of 15 mph or less.

COMMUNITY, continued

will head toward the East Cemetery. There a military recognition takes place for the veterans; honoring those who pledged to defend our nation.

■ **Community-Wide Garage Sale:** This annual event will take place Thursday through Saturday, **June 8-10, 2023**. Check Facebook for details to participate.

■ **Grass Lake Heritage Day planning goes on/volunteers invited:** Interested citizens representing Grass Lake Area Historical Society, Whistlestop Depot, and American Legion/VFW are planning Grass Lake's Heritage on September 9. The meetings take place every other Wednesday @ 6:30 pm at the Village Hall. Volunteer to help facilitate a full day of fun and gratitude for our past. Contact Pat Simpson for information: zta90451984@hotmail.com.

■ **July 4th Parade, Chicken BBQ and Fireworks** have openings for volunteers. Ask any Sportsman's Club's member or email Jim Ducey: jducey.4thjuly@gmail.com.

- **Good numbers to have at hand** for those inquiring; there are resources to help with food, housing or paying bills:
 - Dial **211**, or online www.mi211.org
 - Call **517-780-7400**, Jackson County Department of Human Services – or online, Health Insurance/MDHHS Food Assistance, Jackson County, MI: www.co.jackson.mi.us/462Health-Insurance-DHS-Food-Assistance
 - Michigan State Health & Human Services: online Assistance Programs: www.michigan.gov/mdhhsassistance-programs

■ **Connect with the Village anytime at www.villageofgrasslake.com** ■