

Jay Road to remain open throughout construction

Written by MARK JAEGER
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Engineer tells property owners the project should be completed this fall

Concerned Town of Fredonia residents and business owners were told during a recent informational meeting that every effort will be taken to keep Jay Road passable during road reconstruction this summer.

The project will run from Highway 57 to Random Lake Road, a distance of approximately 7,000 feet.

Rick Schmidt of the engineering firm Stantec said planning is expected to be complete early this month, with the approval of bids anticipated by the end of the month.

If there are no complications related to bidding, work is expected to start in August and be “substantially complete” by October.

“The bids are likely to come in better if you give the contractors more flexibility to work with,” Schmidt said.

The project will be divided into two phases, with major reconstruction planned for the east end of the work zone west of Highway 57.

That 1,000-foot stretch will involve substantial upgrades, including turning lanes to accommodate the adjacent Cedar Valley Cheese Factory. Curbing might also be added to a portion of that stretch for better drainage.

A hill west of the factory will be cut back to improve sight lines.

For the remaining section of road, the existing asphalt will be pulverized and covered with about four inches of new paving material.

Except during the single day of pulverizing, the road will remain open with the use of flagmen, although traffic will be limited to one lane.

“The traveling public should be able to get through, but they should remember it is a construction zone,” Schmidt said.

Emergency vehicles will be able to get through at all times, he said.

A special meeting of the Town Board was scheduled for Wednesday, July 17, to allow Schmidt to provide a design update and finalize bid documents.