

## **Officials break ground on Miller Road project**

**FLINT TOWNSHIP**

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FLINT TWP. - Look out: Construction starts next week on busy Miller Road.

Federal, county and local officials donned yellow hard hats and grabbed shovels Monday to break ground and celebrate the beginning of construction on the commercial thoroughfare.

Although the project will cause lane closures, detours and traffic backups - the likelihood of which already is causing worries for some business owners - officials say the inconveniences will be offset by a smoother road, increased safety and better traffic flow when the project is completed.

"Thousands of people drive to work every day, go to stores and move from one end of the community to the other on this road," said U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich.

The \$10-million project from Linden Road to Ballenger Highway is the largest ever for the Genesee County Road Commission. Construction is expected to last through September.

Roseanna Knoack, manager of Bob Evans Restaurant, 3267 Miller Road, said she hopes construction ends on time.

"It depends on weather conditions, if they run into problems and drivers," said Knack. "All businesses will be slightly affected, but we're excited and hopeful we will maintain sales."

While under construction, traffic will be reduced from two lanes in each direction to one.

A left-turn lane also will remain open.

The first phase of construction will begin east of Manwaring Drive to I-75. It will include the ramp to southbound I-75 and the intersection of Miller Road and Lennon and Ballenger roads.

The first phase is expected to be completed in June.

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