

## WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

**TO:** Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners

**FROM:** Steven M. Puuri  
Managing Director

**SUBJECT:** Staff Report – September 28, 2009 thru October 11, 2009

**DATE:** October 20, 2009

### TOWNSHIP REPORTS

#### A. Maintenance

Scraping of soft surfaced roads and patching of paved roads took place throughout the County. In addition, the following specific maintenance activities were performed in individual townships.

#### ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch – Oakcleft Drive, Warren Road: 9½ tons of limestone
- Pick Up Fallen Trees – Earhart Road, Pontiac Trail, Dixboro Road
- Brush Removal – Hogback Road, Huron River Drive

#### AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch – Rosbolt Road, Judd Road, Hitchingham Road, Macey Road: 160 tons of limestone
- Pick Up Adopt-a-Road Bags – Whittaker Road
- Grind Stumps – Bunton Road

#### BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP

- Boom Mower – Lima Center Road, Wallace Road
- Township Project – placement of 2813 tons of limestone on Hoelzer Road

#### DEXTER TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch Shoulders – Dexter-Pinckney Road: 10 tons of limestone
- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Limestone Patch – Island Lake Road, North Lake Road: 31 tons of limestone
- Ditching – North Territorial Road
- Pick Up Fallen Trees – Dexter-Pinckney Road, Hankerd Road, Waterloo Road

#### FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

- Scrape Shoulders – Pleasant Lake Road
- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Pick Up Fallen Trees and Limbs – Parker Road, Fletcher Road, Bemis Road, Reno Road

LIMA TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch – Sager Road, Wylie Road, Freer Road, Trinkle Road: 31 tons of limestone
- Gravel Patch – Wylie Road: 22 tons of gravel
- Ditching – Liberty Road
- Replace Crossroad Culvert – Trinkle Road east of Lima Center Road
- Roadside Clean Up – Liberty Road
- Pick Up Fallen Trees – Guenther Road, Dancer Road
- Private Order Dust Control – Dancer Road

LODI TOWNSHIP

- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Clean Culverts – Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Alber Road, Parker Road

LYNDON TOWNSHIP

- Roadside Clean Up – Bowdish Road, North Territorial Road
- Brush Removal – Hadley Road, Joslin Lake Road

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP

- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Gravel Patch – Hudson Road, Herman Road, Ely Road, Sharon Hollow Road: 116 tons of gravel
- Roadside Clean Up – Noggles Road
- Cassidy Lake Prison Brush Crew – Noggles Road, Tracey Road
- Township Project – placement of 349 tons of gravel on Boetger Road, Lamb Road, and Scully Road as part of a township wide program

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP

- Pick Up Fallen Trees – Maple Road, Northfield Church Road, Six Mile Road, Eight Mile Road, Hellner Road

PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch – Stone School Road: 40 tons of limestone
- Roadside Mowing
- Pick Up Adopt-a-Road Bags – Carpenter Road

SALEM TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch Shoulders – Eight Mile Road: ½ ton of limestone
- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Install Check Dams – Chubb Road
- Pick Up Fallen Trees – North Territorial Road, Currie Road, Curtis Road, Tower Road
- Cut Dead Trees – Chubb Road between Five Mile and Six Mile Road
- Township Project – Ditch and Limestone Patch on Chubb Road

SALINE TOWNSHIP

- Repair Washout – Macon Road
- Roadside Mowing

SCIO TOWNSHIP

- Ditching – Craig Road, Riverbend Drive, Hickory Road
- Clean Culverts – Pineview Drive, Byington Drive
- Seed and Mulch – Pineview Drive, Craig Road, Riverbend Drive, Walnut Road
- Boom Mower – Parker Road, Dino Drive, Marshall Road
- Brush Removal – Huron River Drive
- Pick Up Adopt-a-Road Bags – Dexter-Ann Arbor Road

SHARON TOWNSHIP

- Dust Control – Primary Roads
- Gravel Patch – Easudes Road: 64 tons of gravel
- Cut Bleeders – Hashley Road, Sharon Hollow Road
- Pick Up Fallen Tree – Hashley Road

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP

- Pick Up Fallen Trees – Ford Road, Prospect Road
- Brush Removal – Prospect Road, Plymouth Road

SYLVAN TOWNSHIP

- Ditching – Heim Road, Sibley Road, Cavanaugh Lake Road
- Clean Culvert – Sibley Road
- Roadside Clean Up – Garvey Road

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP

- Dust Control – Local Roads
- Seed and Mulch - South Hamburg Road
- Pick Up Fallen Tree – Huron River Drive
- Grind Stumps – Scully Road, North Territorial Road

YORK TOWNSHIP

- Grind Stumps – Warner Road

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP

- Limestone Patch – Prospect Road, Bemis Road: 20 tons of limestone
- Check Catch Basins – Township Wide
- Brush Removal – Carol Street, Hitchingam Road
- Township Projects – Milling and Overlay of Lakeview Avenue, McCartney Drive, Tyler Road, Kansas Avenue, Ecorse Service Drive, William Avenue, Gill Avenue

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

## Crack Filling:

- Lima Township – Jackson Road, Fletcher Road to Parker Road (ARRA – TEDF-Category D)
- York Township – Stony Creek Road, Saline-Milan Road to Carpenter Road; Carpenter Road, Arkona Road to Judd Road (ARRA – TEDF-Category D)

## STATE TRUNKLINE

- Patch – M-14, US-23, I-94, M-52, US-12
- Roadside Clean Up – I-94, US-23, M-14, US-12, M-52
- Shoulder Maintenance – M-14, M-153, I-94: 558 tons of limestone
- Guardrail Repair – I-94, M-14
- Cut Dead Trees – I-94, M-52
- Ditching – I-94
- Sand Oil Spill from Accident – US-23
- Clean Drains, Catch Basins – US-23, I-94, M-17
- Traffic Control for Accident – US-23
- Stop and Yield Sign Inspection – US-12, I-94, US-23, M-52

## **B. Construction**

### AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP

*Oakville-Milan Road - Road Reconstruction:* Hot mix Asphalt (HMA) paving of the base and leveling courses, extending from east of Sanford Road (Sta. 52+50) to east of Gooding Road (POE), was performed September 28-30, 2009 (5000+ Tons placed), with the first day of paving limited by adverse weather conditions. Fine grading of the aggregate base ahead of the paving operations was completed. Work also included aggregate shoulders, ditching and driveway culvert installation, topsoil placement, and mailbox installation. Maintenance activities were conducted on the truck detour route. The existing structure at the Falk Drain was demolished and the new concrete box culvert was delivered and installed. Media advisories were prepared and distributed regarding the full closure of Milan-Oakville Road at the Falk Drain. Staff responded to various resident inquiries.

### PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP

*Platt Road Greenway, Ellsworth Road to Textile Road – Pathway Construction:* The contractor continues to cut in the new pathway and place the aggregate base from the Koch-Warner Drain to Textile Road. Drainage work including setting and modifying structures, installing and/or extending culverts and ditching has been completed as needed along the pathway. A portion of the ditch at the Platt Road/Textile Road intersection was enclosed to accommodate the new pathway. Existing curb and gutter at the various intersections has been removed and will be replaced along with ADA sidewalk ramps in early October 2009. Pedestrian signal work started at the Platt Road/Ellsworth Road intersection. Restoration activities started along the site. Staff continues to coordinate construction activities with township representatives.

### SCIO TOWNSHIP

*Jackson Road, Phase 3 - Road Reconstruction:* Restoration activities for the south side of the boulevard commenced. The contractor continued final grading of the median area. Joints were sealed for the eastbound portion of the boulevard and all constructed crossovers. Traffic signal work continued at the Jackson Road/Baker Road intersection. Permanent traffic sign locations were staked. The traffic control and outstanding items were reviewed in anticipation of the traffic switch planned for October 13, 2009.

## SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP

*Plymouth Road/Gotfredson Road - Intersection Improvement:* Work by WCRC crews related to the new traffic signal continued. Restoration activities commenced, but were delayed due to unfavorable weather conditions. The completion of restoration is expected during the week of October 12, 2009.

*Plymouth Road Bridge over Fleming Creek - Bridge Replacement:* Work completed included approach guardrail installation, application of the concrete surface sealer to the exterior surfaces of the bridge, erection of mailboxes, and final preparation of the topsoil and the application of seed, fertilizer and mulch blankets. The pavement was striped and the road/bridge was reopened to traffic on October 1, 2009. A media advisory regarding the reopening of the road was prepared and distributed. Finalizing of items/quantities is ongoing.

## YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP

*Whittaker Road at Stony Creek Road – Roundabout Construction:* The Whittaker Road at Stony Creek Road roundabout project bids were opened on September 18, 2009. A pre-construction meeting was held on October 15, 2009 with construction expected to begin in the spring of 2010.

## COUNTY-WIDE

*2009 Preventative Maintenance Program:* The 2009 Preventative Maintenance Program consists of milling and hot-mix asphalt (HMA) paving of various roads county-wide. The project bids were opened on September 18, 2009. The pre-construction meeting was held on October 2, 2009. A Request for Proposals for materials testing services was prepared and distributed.

## **C. Project Development**

### DESIGN

Pulverizing and paving operations began and curb and structure repairs were completed on the Varsity Industrial Subdivision Special Assessment District (SAD) project. Paving should be completed by the week of October 12, 2009. Staff provided information packages to other parties who have inquired about the SAD program and are following up to provide assistance. Staff secured an estimate and prepared an agreement for payment for a deep strength patch on Venture Drive in Pittsfield Township. Staff secured a stormwater permit from the Water Resource Commissioner's office, completed all documentation for right-of-way Attachment B, and are reviewing final plans for the Holmes Road, Phase III project. Staff continues working on programming projects for the remainder of the American Resource and Recovery Act (ARRA) funding program. A preconstruction meeting was conducted for the first phase of ARRA projects. A preconstruction meeting has been scheduled for the Whittaker Road/Stony Creek Road project. Staff continues assisting the Construction section with required MDOT document submittals on the Plymouth Road Bridge project, the Plymouth Road/Gotfredson Road Safety project, and the Jackson Road, Phase III project. Staff met with the Water Resource Commissioner's staff and consultant to discuss proposed solutions for the Earhart Road culverts in Northfield Township.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY ACTIVITIES

Staff received notice from a property owner's attorney indicating objection to the proposed removal of two Cottonwood trees associated with the Hitchingham Road Paving project between Textile Road and Stony Creek Road in Ypsilanti Township. Staff then notified the County Highway Engineer, Director of Operations and the Project Manager of the Board policy regarding tree removals and proposed requesting a Tree Removal Order following established procedures. Staff continued meeting with property owners on the Holmes Road, Phase III project and coordinated the acquisition of a permanent drainage easement from Ypsilanti Township necessary to treat storm water runoff pursuant to established goals of the Water Resources Commissioner. Staff met with the property owner and Project Manager to discuss the proposed project schedule and restoration of disturbed areas for the Pontiac Trail Drainage project. Staff addressed a property owner's concern regarding placement of a traffic sign within the road right-of-way on the Plymouth Road/Gotfredson Road project. Staff assisted Construction staff on two property owner requests pertaining to the Milan-Oakville Road project. Staff met with the Jackson Road, Phase III Right-of-Way Consultant to coordinate the transfer of possession of Parcel 38 and continues to maintain right-of-way files. Staff obtained two tree removal permits from property owners on the Warren Road Culvert Replacement project. Laura Southwell, Right-of-Way Technician, attended the Michigan Chapter of International Right-of-Way Association Fall Seminar where various topics were discussed including working with knowledgeable property owners, challenges of acquiring large tracts of land rights for wind generation power plants, water rights, recent case law decisions, legal updates and value considerations in difficult economic times. Ms. Southwell also presented a City of Ann Arbor Mayoral Proclamation setting forth October as Right-of-Way month, recognizing the contributions that right-of-way professionals provide to society.

## SURVEY ACTIVITIES

Staff continued staking crossovers, driveway approaches, and landscaping limits for the Jackson Road, Phase III project. Staff staked driveway culverts and the road crossing box culvert structure for the Milan-Oakville Road project. Staff completed staking back of curb, ditch, centerline, and edge of pavement grades for earthwork and paving operations for the Plymouth Road/Gotfredson Road Safety project. Staff continued compiling information for the 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Plan and prepared a draft document review. Staff has reviewed legal descriptions for various right-of-way dedications for Permits and Subdivisions. Staff began drafting a legal description for a right-of-way transfer along Morgan Road. Staff began the MDEQ permitting process for an embankment repair along Huron River Drive.

### **D. Permits & Subdivisions**

Staff received 17 new right-of-way permit applications during this period and logged 13 plans for review. At this time, there are 107 pending right-of-way permits (applied for but not issued); 13 residential, 49 commercial, 35 utility, and 10 miscellaneous permits. Staff completed 12 plan reviews, performed seven sight distance studies, responded to one service request, performed 19 motor carrier enforcement stops and issued two stop work orders. Currently there are 475 active right-of-way permits (issued & awaiting completion); 134 residential, 54 commercial, 187 utility, and 100 miscellaneous permits.

There were 10 final inspections performed during this period. Staff issued five residential drive, three commercial drive, eight utility and 46 transportation permits and receipted approximately \$10,600 in permit fees and surety.

#### AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP

*Rawsonville Road Railroad Crossing Repair: Norfolk Southern Railway completed the track replacement on Rawsonville Road.*

#### PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP

*Wal-Mart Road Improvements: The Contractor completed paving the hot mix asphalt (HMA) top course on US-12, State Road and Moon Road and is working to complete pavement marking, signing, restoration and punch list items.*

#### SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP

*Fairway Glens Subdivision No. 1: The Contractor began construction on the Wiard Road connection and curb repairs.*