

Stay Informed

The Washtenaw County Road Commission's website (wcroads.org) has the following features to help you stay informed during construction season.

Weekly Road Work Schedule

wcroads.org/weekly-road-work-update/

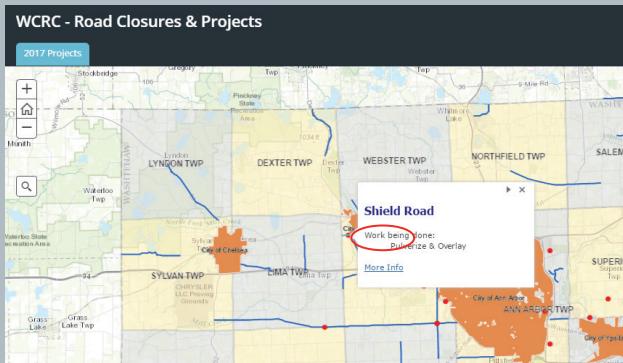
Every Thursday morning, WCRC distributes a schedule with the following week's road work. The schedule includes detour information and expected completion dates.

View a Map & List of Road Projects:

wcroads.org/road-work-construction/

Using the Road Work Map:

Road projects are marked in blue; bridge, culverts and intersection projects are marked in red. To learn more about a specific project, click the segment or dot and click "More Info" to view dates, detour routes, FAQ and other information.



View Projects as a List:

If you scroll below the road work map, you can view projects as a list. Use the dark blue drop-down menus to sort the list by township, project type and status (pre-construction, under construction and complete).

Township	Type	Project Status
BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP		
Austin Road		
SCIPIO TOWNSHIP		
Baker Road		
BRIDGEWATER, FREEDOM TOWNSHIP		

WCRC Mission Statement

The Washtenaw County Road Commission is responsible for maintaining a road system that is reasonable safe and convenient for the traveling public.

Board of County Road Commissioners

Douglas E. Fuller
Chair

Barbara Ryan Fuller
Vice Chair

William McFarlane
Member

Roy D. Townsend, P.E.
Managing Director

Sheryl Soderholm Siddall, P.E.
*Director of Engineering
County Highway Engineer*

James D. Harmon, P.E.
Director of Operations



Construction Season at WCRC

- Common types of road construction projects
- How to stay informed of road work and closures



Questions or Comments?

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Office Hours:

May - Sept: 6 am - 4:30 pm Mon-Thur
Sept - April: 7 am - 3:30 pm Mon-Fri

Common Road Construction Projects

The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) is responsible for road and bridge construction on public roads located outside city and village limits.

Road construction projects are selected based on criteria including pavement condition, traffic counts, available funding, and road classification (primary or local).

Below are some common types of road construction projects. The costs mentioned in the descriptions below are estimates per lane mile. Please note that projects can cost more or less depending on the cost of materials, schedule, traffic volumes, environmental impacts and other factors.

PULVERIZE & RESURFACE

When a road is in “poor” condition, it may be rebuilt through a process of pulverization and resurfacing. WCRC uses a machine called a pulverizer which is capable of breaking up 6-10 inches of existing asphalt pavement. WCRC then recycles and compacts the pulverized asphalt to create a new road base. After establishing the new road base, crews apply two layers of new asphalt to create a smooth, long-lasting road surface. A pulverized and resurfaced road will last 10-15 years and costs approximately \$300,000 per mile.



Above: pulverizer. Below: pulverized road; half the road has a fresh layer of asphalt.

MILL & RESURFACE

Roads that are in “fair” condition are good candidates for a mill and resurfacing project. During a typical mill and resurfacing project, one layer (1.5-2 inches) of existing asphalt is removed (milled) and the road is resurfaced with a new layer of asphalt. A milled and resurfaced road will last around 7-9 years and costs approximately \$170,000 per mile. If the road has deteriorated into “poor” condition, milling one layer of the roadway is usually not enough to improve the ride condition and prevent future deterioration and potholes.

CHIP SEAL / SEAL COAT

Chip sealing is a relatively low-cost surface treatment that seals and prevents water from seeping into the roadway. Chip sealing helps prevent potholes and protects the road surface from the damaging effects of weather, sun, and traffic. A chip seal can help extend the life of a road by 3-7 years and costs approximately \$25,000 per mile. WCRC aims to chip seal roads that have been recently pulverized or milled in order to extend their lifespans.



Chip spreader placing the chip seal aggregate (small stones) on a road recently covered with liquid asphalt. Rollers are used to embed the aggregate into the liquid asphalt.

BRIDGES – ROUTINE MAINTENANCE & RECONSTRUCTION

Washtenaw County is home to 119 bridges, many of which were built in the early 1900s. Each year WCRC performs preventative maintenance on bridges with available resources. However, a bridge must be completely replaced if it is deemed structurally unsound during WCRC’s routine inspections.

Bridge replacement projects differ in scope depending on the type, size, traffic volume, and environmental surroundings. A bridge replacement will typically take 3-6 months to construct and can cost anywhere from \$500,000 to \$3 million depending on the size of the project.

CULVERTS – REPAIRS & REPLACEMENT

WCRC is also responsible for the maintenance of over 2,000 culverts. Culverts allow water to flow underneath a road. Culverts are prefabricated and can be round, oval or box-shaped. They can span between 1 to 20 feet. Similar to the Washtenaw County’s bridges, many culverts were built in the early 1900s, have exceeded their lifespans and require repairs or replacements.



WCRC crews replacing a culvert on Fletcher Road in Lima Township.