



**2022 Annual Report to the Community**



# From Our Chair

Another year has flown by here at the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC). While it was at times a tumultuous year, we persevered and were successful.

Our employees worked throughout the year, in every corner of the county, to keep our many miles of road in the best possible condition. During the construction season, we improved or preserved nearly 140 miles of primary roads across the county. Despite the tight labor market, we hired 13 new employees and continue to look for talented professionals to join our team, especially CDL drivers.

After a two-year pandemic-related pause, it was wonderful to see many of you again at meetings, community fairs, big truck events and parades this year (pictured on the cover is our visit to Mr. Tindall's 3rd grade class at Manchester's Riverside Intermediate School). We also continued our popular Paint-a-Plow program, partnering with seven educational programs across the county. Be on the lookout for the latest plow artwork on our trucks this winter.

I'm extremely proud to have served as the chair of this wonderful organization for the past two years. I hope you find the following report a helpful overview of who we are and the important services that we provide to the community that we love.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Ryan Fuller



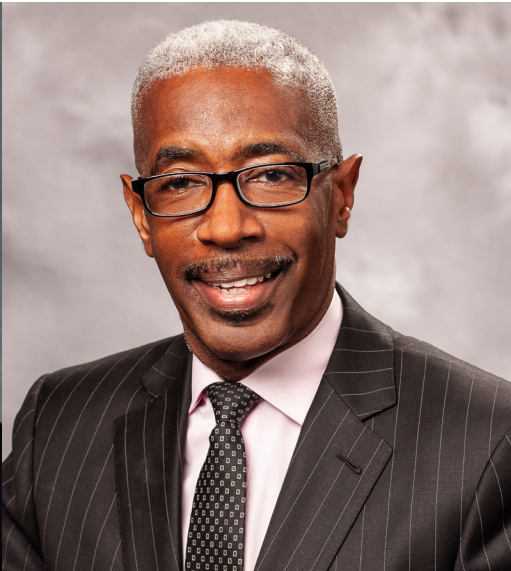
Barbara Ryan Fuller, chair

## The 2022 WCRC Board



Douglas E. Fuller, member\*

*\*Commissioner D. Fuller passed away in November 2022.*



Rodrick K. Green, vice chair



Gloria Llamas, member



Jo Ann McCollum, member

# WCRC's Stats

**1,650 miles**

WCRC is responsible for 1,650 centerline miles of certified public roads throughout the county.

**743 miles**

743 miles of these roads are unpaved.

**598 miles**

In addition, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) contracts WCRC to maintain 598 lane miles of state highways within the county.

**126 bridges**

There are 126 bridges located on county roads under WCRC's jurisdiction.

**30,000 signs**

WCRC maintains more than 30,000 road signs located across the county.

**170 signals**

WCRC owns 105 stop-and-go traffic signals and maintains 65 additional stop-and-go traffic signals on behalf of MDOT.

**136 employees**

WCRC's dedicated employees work year-round, in every weather condition, to provide the best road system possible for the people of Washtenaw County. Employees and maintenance yards are strategically positioned across the county to provide quick response in support of the county's first responders and the traveling public.

# Financial Report

Despite the challenges presented by supply chain delays and inflation, 2022 was another stable budget year for WCRC. Visit [wcroads.org](https://wcroads.org) to see the full 2022 budget year-end report.

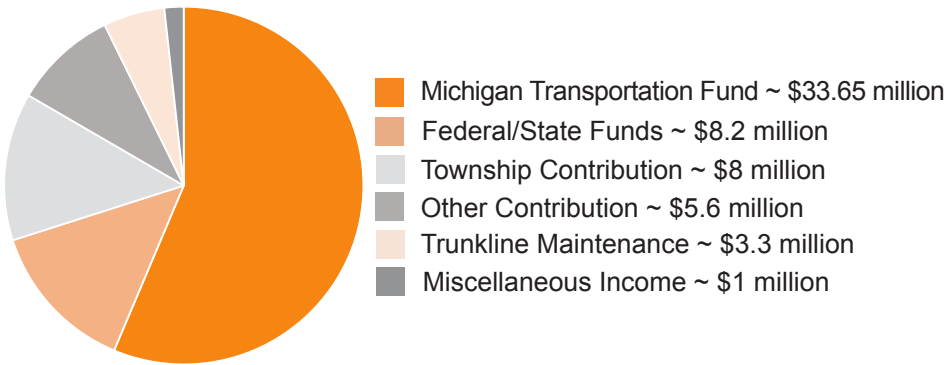
## Revenues

As shown in the chart on the right, WCRC is projecting to receive approximately \$59.7 million in revenue in 2022. The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) is the largest source of revenue for WCRC at approximately \$33.65 million. The majority of MTF revenue is generated by the Michigan state fuel tax and license/registration fees and then distributed to MDOT, county road agencies and cities/villages through the Act 51 formula.

Federal/state dollars are another important source of revenue for WCRC. In 2022, all of the revenue in this category was earmarked for specific projects funded by federal/state grants.

Townships are another important source of revenue for WCRC. Check out “Partnering with Townships on Local Roads” in this report to learn more.

The Four-Year County Roads and Non-Motorized Millage, renewed by voters in 2020, is projected to generate approximately \$4.2 million for WCRC in 2022. Millage revenue is reflected in the “Other Contribution” category. Learn more about the road projects funded by the millage in the 2022 Year-End Millage Report insert.

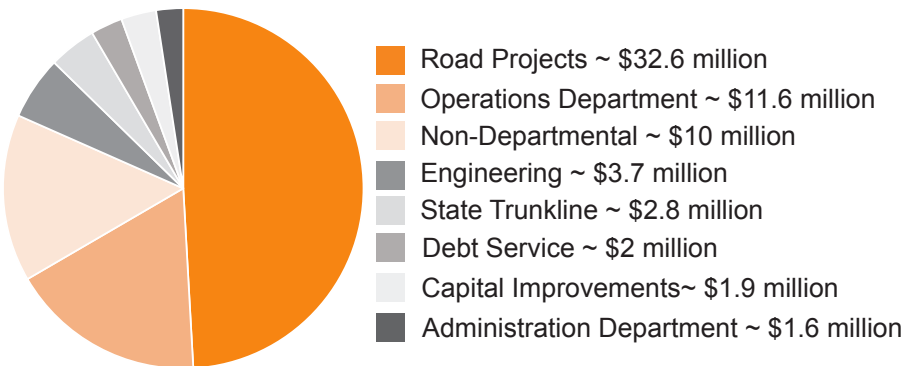


## Expenses

The WCRC board and staff work hard to strike an appropriate balance between improving the road system while also investing in staff, equipment and facilities. WCRC had approximately \$66.3 million in expenses in 2022.

As is typical, a majority of WCRC’s spending went directly into road and bridge projects this year. The \$32.6 million “Road Projects” category is a combination of WCRC, township, county millage, state and federally-funded projects on both primary and local roads across the county.

The largest expense, outside of road projects, is staff. WCRC has a total of 136 authorized full-time positions split between the Operations, Engineering and Administration Departments.





Pictured right is the new  
Pontiac Tr and  
N. Territorial Rd  
Roundabout constructed  
in Salem Township.

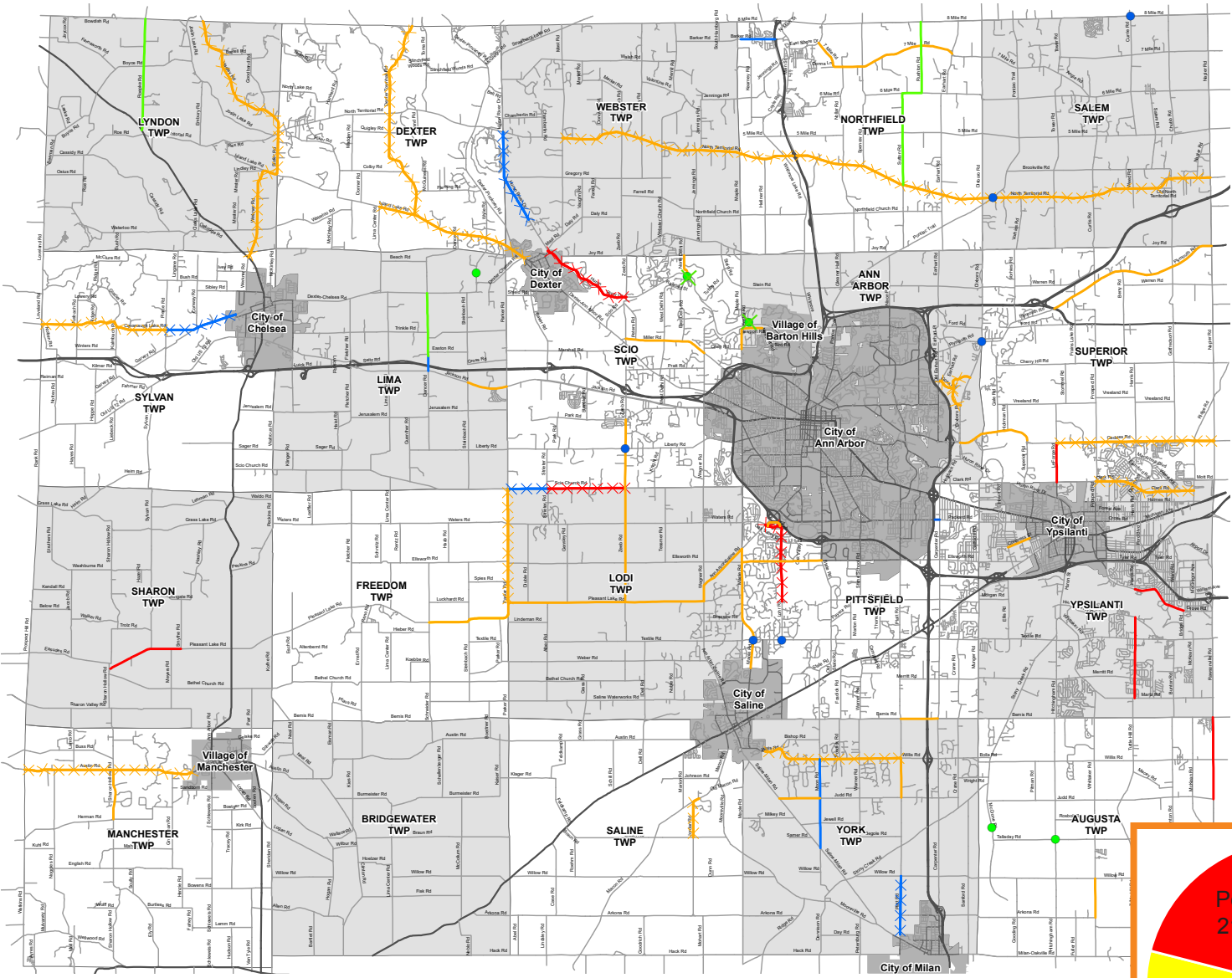




# Primary Road and Bridge Construction

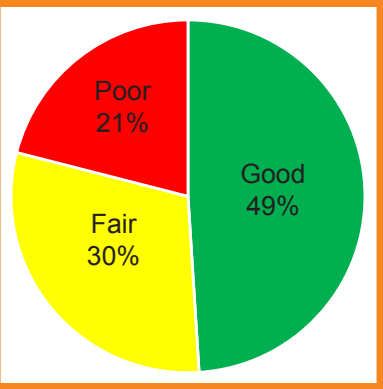
## Completed 2022 Primary Road and Bridge Improvement Projects

- Mill/overlay
- Pulverize/overlay or reconstruct
- Seal coat
- Limestone/gravel overlay
- Bridge/culvert project
- Intersection project
- Denotes a project funded with county millage dollars



Thanks to these investments, 49% of paved, primary roads under WCR's jurisdiction are now in good condition based on the latest data. In 2014, just 20% of these roads were in good condition. WCR rates its paved, primary road system every year and uses this data to plan future projects.

Check out WCR's 2021-2023 Asset Management Plan at [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org) to learn more.





# 2022 Primary Road Construction Numbers

## 98 Miles of Seal Coat

Includes chip seal and fog seal projects. Seal coat helps to extend the life of a road in good/fair condition.

## 31 Miles of Resurfacing

Includes reconstruction, pulverize/overlay and mill/overlay projects.

## 9 Miles of Unpaved Road Improvements

Includes drainage improvements and the addition of limestone/gravel to the road surface.

## 6 Intersection Projects

Includes a variety of treatments including new roundabouts, traffic signals, turn-lanes and/or overhead flashing beacons.

## 2 Bridges Rehabilitated

In 2022, WCRC rehabilitated the E. Delhi Rd and the Maple (Foster) Rd historic truss bridges.



Rushton Rd Limestone Resurfacing (Salem Township)



Liberty Rd and Zeeb Rd Roundabout (Scio Township)



Pleasant Lake Rd Seal Coat (Freedom, Lodi Townships)



Grove Rd Resurfacing (Ypsilanti Township)



# Partnering with Townships on Local Roads



Green Valley Dr Resurfacing (Pittsfield Township)



Huron River Dr Improvements (Webster Township)



Weber Rd Resurfacing (Lodi Township)

Local roads connect homes and businesses to the primary road system. They are a critically important part of the county's infrastructure yet there is little state funding available for their maintenance and improvement. Due to these funding challenges, financial partnerships with Washtenaw County's 20 townships are critical for the improvement of local roads across the county.

In 2022, WCRC allocated \$1.5 million of its MTF revenue into a Local Road Matching Program for townships to utilize.

In addition, WCRC simplified the Local Matching Program by eliminating the drainage part and allowing funds to be used on any type of local road project.

This year, townships collectively invested more than \$8 million into improvements on local and some primary roads, taking advantage of the Local Road Matching Program, other funding opportunities and more.

Despite these efforts, many local roads are in poor condition and are in desperate need of investment. WCRC remains committed to working with townships to invest in these roads within the funding limitations faced by all.



Augusta Township  
partnered with  
WCRC to replace  
a large culvert on  
Hitchingham Rd  
in 2022. The road  
had been closed  
since 2019 due  
to structural  
deterioration of  
the culvert.





# Maintaining the Roads

No two days are the same when it comes to road maintenance. Throughout the year, often when the weather is at its worst, WCRC crews are out conducting a variety of road maintenance activities in every township of the county.

WCRC's Operations Department is tasked with conducting routine maintenance on public roads year-round, including grading unpaved roads, pothole patching, roadside tree trimming or removal, roadside brush mowing, etc. In the winter, this team becomes the snow/ice patrol. During a typical winter, WCRC will provide 50 - 75 days of winter maintenance services.

Road signs and traffic signals are maintained by WCRC's Traffic and Safety Team. These important safety features require year-round maintenance as well.

Managing third-party work within the public road right-of-way falls under WCRC's Permits Section.

Visit [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org) to learn more about WCRC's services.

## 2022 Maintenance Numbers

### 4,300+ Service Requests Closed

Residents can report road concerns via the WCRC Fix It App, by calling (734) 761-1500 or online at [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org).

### 2,500+ Road Signs Installed

Damaged or missing road signs were replaced or repaired throughout the year by WCRC's Sign Team.

### 750+ Right-of-Way and 1,900+ Transportation Permits Issued

WCRC's Permits Section is tasked with protecting the road and road right-of-way for the public through a detailed permitting process.

### 830+ After-Hour Call-Ins

WCRC crews respond 24/7 to reports of road hazards. These call-ins include snow/ice response, downed trees in the road, debris in the road, etc.

### 320+ Roadwork Notices & Project Emails Sent

Anyone can subscribe to receive email alerts from WCRC regarding planned road work and major road construction projects.



Traffic Sign Installation



Pavement Marking



Pothole Patching



Each winter presents a different set of challenges for WCRC. On average, WCRC spends approximately \$2 million a year dealing with ice and snow.





# Connect with WCRC



## Call (734) 761-1500

WCRC's Regular Hours:  
Monday - Friday,  
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

WCRC's Summer Hours:  
Monday - Thursday,  
6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Call to report road-related emergencies such as a tree across the road or a missing stop sign.



## Visit [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org) Online

Submit non-emergency service requests, apply for permits, see upcoming road work, subscribe to road advisory emails, learn about road-related topics and much more!



## Download the WCRC Fix It App

Available for Apple or Android devices. Submit non-emergency service requests and receive notifications from staff during the resolution process.



## Attend a Board Meeting

The WCRC Board meets at 1 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Members of the public are welcome to attend board meetings in person at WCRC's Administration Building, 555 N. Zeeb Rd or virtually via Zoom.



## Follow @WashtenawRoads on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

For road updates, construction project updates, helpful tips and much more!



## Chat with the Road Commission

Join WCRC leadership every Wednesday between noon and 1 p.m. for virtual office hours. RSVPs are encouraged but not required. Learn more at [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org).



## Join the Team!

WCRC is currently hiring full-time CDL drivers. Year-round and seasonal positions are available. Apply online at [wcroads.org](http://wcroads.org).