

Grand Traverse County Road Commission
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TO: Margaret Underwood, Chair - Physical Resources Committee

FROM: Mary N. Gillis, Manager

DATE: August 7, 2007

SUBJECT: **MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE AUGUST 15, 2007 MEETING
AT 7:30 A.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
400 BOARDMAN AVENUE, TRAVERSE CITY**

cc: East Bay Township County Planning Commission
Garfield Charter Township Board of County Road Commissioners

Manager Mary Gillis and Commissioner Livasy are available to answer questions and provide current information on the following items:

1. **CRAM Paul Bunyan Council Meeting** – We are pleased to host this meeting on August 16 and hope to see many of you there! Please RSVP by August 9.
2. **North Region ITS** – Road Commission staff attended the 3rd North Region ITS Architecture meeting on July 18. Deployment will include a project request for a Traverse City area Traffic Management Center. This Traffic Management Center would control traffic signals for state, county and city roads/streets in the area. The funding for this proposal has yet to be identified, but it must be in the architecture before it can receive federal funding. Plans also indicate Road Weather Information Systems, including at least two sensors in Grand Traverse County, which should provide real-time weather information primarily for winter maintenance activities.
3. **Procedures and Regulations for Developing Public and Private Roads** – The Manager discussed the recently adopted regulations at the County Quarterly Planning Lunch on July 19. There was significant discussion regarding the changes to these standards. Amendments and clarifications will be made shortly and submitted to our Board for approval. Context sensitive design solutions were also brought up as an important priority with township and village representatives. Further work can be done along these lines to allow for developments that are environmentally sensitive and meet the needs of the townships and county.
4. **Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement** - The Manager and County Highway Engineer have been investigating hot mix asphalt mix design issues with several local contractors. We will begin using

reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) in mix designs on the Bunker Hill/Springbrook paving project. This will reduce the price of the material and also recycle existing pavement which has been crushed, saving the environmental costs of using virgin material. RAP is currently used by MDOT and other county road commissions in the state.

5. **TART Partnership** - The Road Commission partnered with TART and MDOT to do a bike and pedestrian Public Service Announcement (PSA). The PSAs are now in rotation on Interlochen Public Radio. Road Commission forces have been performing maintenance work on the TART Trail for the past couple of weeks.
6. **Whitewater Township Special Assessment District for Road Projects** – Construction requirements of the project are now complete.
7. **South Airport Road, Garfield Road to Townline Road** – The project is expected to start the week of August 13. The low bid from Elmer's was \$899,365.10; however, approximately \$200,000 of hot mix asphalt quantities was inadvertently left out of the bid. The project is now expected to cost closer to the \$1.2 million engineer's estimate.
8. **Overlays on South Airport Road** – Silver Lake Road to US-31 was overlaid in mid-July and Townline Road to Three Mile Road was done August 7.
9. **Keystone-Hammond Roads** – A public information meeting was held on July 25 to receive comments and input regarding several alternatives for this intersection and corridor. Most attendees were supportive of the project. The next meeting will be in early fall.
10. **Three Mile Road, South Airport Road to Hammond Road** – Consultants are in early stages of collecting data and landowner input before preparing a design. The first landowner meeting is August 21 between 4 and 7 PM at the East Bay Township Hall.
11. **River Road** – The project was let on August 3. Rieth-Riley was the low bidder at \$1,249,723.24. The preconstruction meeting is August 13 with the project expected to begin in early September.
12. **Crockett Road** – The August 22 landowners' meeting starts at 6PM at the Acme Township Hall.
13. **County Road Map** – Work continues on this new map which is expected to be released in 2008. Additional copies of the 2003 Road Map were purchased and available in time for the Governors Conference.
14. **Keystone Road Soccer Fields** – Staff participated in a joint meeting with County officials, Great Lakes Central Railroad and Consumers Energy to develop a safe access into this recreational area. As the road agency, our next step will be to apply for a railroad diagnostic study.
15. **Maintenance Activity** – The second application of dust control (brining) began July 30 starting on the east side of the county.