

MAC Annual Conference

County Road Agency Work on the Road System

Steve Puuri, PE

Engineering Specialist CRA and MML





Presenter



- Steve Puuri, PE, Engineering Specialist for CRA, MML since 2014.
- 9 years USDA Soil Conservation Project Engineer.
- 25 years as Engineer, Managing Director Washtenaw CRC.



Typical county road agency expenditures

4% 3%	Legend	Category	Value	Percent
		Preservation & Structural Improvement (PSI)	\$682,415,003.86	38%
		Routine Maintenance	\$542,580,976.01	30%
		State Trunkline Maintenance	\$181,211,526.95	10%
		Other	\$131,650,487.90	8%
		Winter Maintenance	\$125,441,071.08	7%
		Administrative	\$68,034,201.26	4%
		Construction & Capacity Improvement (CCI)	\$58,299,318.27	3%

2021, ТАМС

Counties' road, bridge maintenance tasks



- Grading gravel roads
- Pothole patching
- Culvert replacements
- Guardrail repair
- Roadside mowing, brushing
- Sign replacement
- Signal repair



Phases of a county road project



- Planning, design
- Environmental concerns
- Right of way
- Advertising, Bid Award
- Construction, oversight
- Investment reporting



Equipment to support county road system maintenance

- Snowplow trucks
- Sign and signal trucks
- Pickup trucks
- Graders
- Excavators
- Pavement patching eqpt.
- Mowing, brushing eqpt.





Materials that support county road system maintenance

- Aggregates (stone), sand
- Culverts, guardrail
- Deicing salt
- Dust control brine
- Sign material, posts
- Signal equipment
- Fuels



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Public involvement: Key component to county road agency future planning

- Long-range planning
- Annual budget meetings
- Coordinating w/other agencies
- Township/local officials meetings
- Project information meetings
- Public hearings
- Property owner meetings
- Communications
- Website, social media



Benefits of county road work, contracted or force account



- Flexible road design
- Aligned w/community needs
- Greater control of timing
- Better bids ~ 25% savings
- County commission oversight



County road agencies must satisfy numerous design standards



- AASHTO Road Design Manual
- MDOT construction specs
- MMUTCD Traffic Control Manual
- MDOT oversight
- MDOT audits



Road agencies must satisfy numerous environmental, cultural concerns

- Stormwater handling
- County/inter-county drain issues
- Soil erosion
- Cultural, archeological clearances
- Threatened/endangered species
- Wetland issues
- FAA, RR permits



Road agencies must meet, *verify* federal wage standards of contractors

Davis-Bacon wage/benefit assurance required by MDOT for federal aid projects.

• CRA partnered in Track CTC.

CRA provided:

- Davis-Bacon guidance;
- Special provisions (2);
- MDOT buyout oversight ongoing
- Next buyout call October 2023.



Mmm. But not that bacon...



MDOT Federal Aid Buyout Program

1st call (FY 2023 - \$25M)

- \$16.5M claimed
- 25 counties (34 projects)

2nd call (FY 2024 - \$35M)

- \$31.2M claimed
- 28 counties (43 projects)
- 7 municipalities (11 projects)

3rd call (FY 2025 - \$45M)



Grants available: Transportation Economic Development Fund "D"



To assist road accommodations for local economic development on all-season roads

- Road agency requests from MDOT
- Local agencies receive "D" \$
- Must spend on all-season roads
- 3 years to spend the "D" \$



Common property owner concerns on road projects

- Maintaining access to home
- Restoring drives, lawns
- Purchasing road right-of-way
- Temporary grading permits
- FHWA land acquisition procedures
- Sensitive cultural, archeological sites
- Railroad, drain encroachments

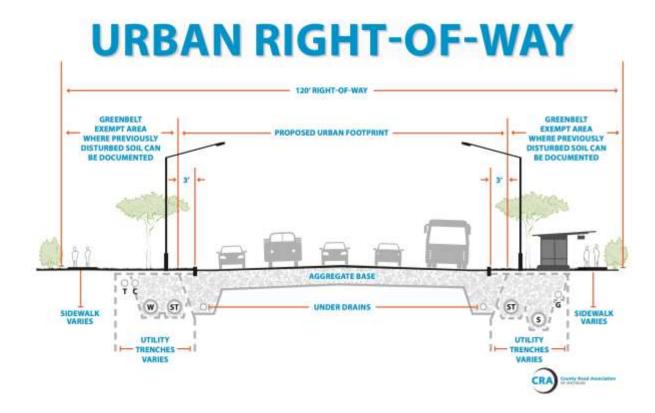




What's under that ROW? Public utilities escalated over the years



- Public utilities under MPSC
- Allowed in right-of-way with permit from road agency
- Road agency establishes location, depth
- Road agency establishes fees
- Utility conflicts, relocating
- MISS DIG locating



CRA[™] County Road Association

THANK YOU!

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