

The ROADWAYS Report

JULY 2023

Our mission is to collectively provide and maintain a safe, cost efficient and quality road system for motorists in Genesee County.



Letter From The Managing Director

BY FRED PEIVANDI, P.E.

It is the busiest time of the year for the Genesee County Road Commission Construction and Maintenance Departments. The Construction Department is undertaking more than 21 miles of various improvements, not including 19 bridge projects scheduled for Replacement, Rehabilitation, or Preservation. With introducing new SAD limited allocation funds from GCRC, there are eight Special Assessment District projects scheduled this year, two of which have already been completed. The Engineering Department has four new Engineering Aides who have acclimated quickly and have become valuable assets.

The Maintenance Department has a packed agenda with over 16 miles of paving, 83 miles of chip seal that have already been completed, and 37 miles of ongoing limestone resurfacing. As part of this year's chip seal program, GCRC is using a new product which you will read about in this newsletter.

Working with our townships, GCRC is making significant strides in improving the roads and bridges here in Genesee County. Together, we are making a difference. Thank you for your ongoing efforts. Let's continue to work together to build a safer, more efficient, and quality road network for all.

Directors

Fred Peivandi, P.E.
Managing Director

Randy Dellaposta
Deputy Managing Director

Anthony Branch
Director of Maintenance

Eric Johnston, P.E.
Director of Engineering

Kendra Love-Brezzell
Fleet Maintenance & Facilities Director

Tracy Khan
Finance Director

Donna Poplar
H.R. Director

Commissioners

Chairperson - Timothy Elkins

Vice Chair - Cathy Lane

Members - Chris Gehringer

Joe Massey

Reggie Smith



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Grand Blanc Rd.

- EB lane excavated for widening
- Traffic shift coming in August



Flagstone Pointe

- Saw cutting completed for removals



Genesee Rd. Bridge

- Abutment cut down & reinstalled
- Beams set
- Back wall is poured
- Preparing for concrete deck



Lapeer Rd.

- Excavation for roadway widening completed



Beecher Rd.

- Phase 1 complete
- Now repairing catch basins

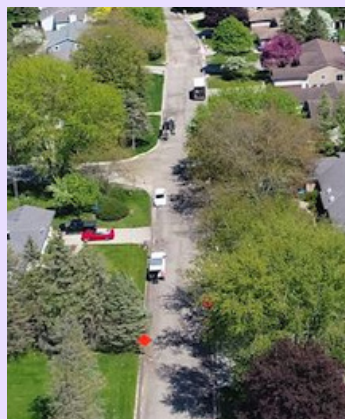
**Already
accomplished**

Linden Rd. culvert

Linden Rd. road diet

Dye Rd. curb & gutter

Golden Shores & Enid Blvd. →



New chip seal material **ROCKS!**



In just four weeks, GCRC's chip seal crew, led by Chris Freeman, was able to improve more than 80 miles of roads. Director of Maintenance Anthony Branch says this year, there were some changes to make it a faster operation. The crew was able to double the amount of emulsion they were putting down each day. In addition to a more efficient process, this year, a new material was used. In the past, GCRC used 29A limestone on

top of the asphalt emulsion. This year, the crew tried out a 50/50 blend of trap rock and 29A limestone, and it has proven to be successful. Trap rock is a larger, coarser stone meaning the road will become rigid and more durable. Branch says this should be a longer lasting solution. "I'm really pleased with it. I'm glad we switched to that," he said. The maintenance department has also received fewer complaints about dust created by freshly chip sealed roads. GCRC's district garages swept the freshly chip sealed road the next day.

The crew also used a new technique known as a scrub seal. The tack truck pulls along a brush to guide the emulsion to cracks in the road. This was used on Bristol Rd. (Morrish Rd. to Van Vleet Rd.), Elms Rd. (Reid Rd. to Hill Rd.), and Baldwin Rd. (Van Vleet Rd. to Seymour Rd.).

Despite having new employees, a new material, and a new technique, the Equipment Operators got the hang of it quickly and finished the jobs in about a month. "They really hustled through it," Freeman said. "There were a lot of learning curves. We have some new people who had to learn a lot of different tasks... The more miles they did, the better we got."

NEW

Using a cell phone while driving becomes illegal

On June 7, Governor Whitmer signed bills that ban holding a cell phone behind the wheel. Making an emergency call or using voice commands is allowed. Drivers are also allowed to press a single button to answer or end a call. The new rule takes effect June 30.

GCRC's Employee Handbook prohibits handheld cell phone use while driving a GCRC vehicle. In addition, the ban has applied to commercial drivers since 2012, however, it now applies to all drivers. Please stay safe, both on and off the job.

Employee *Spotlight*

Every day is something different for Building and Grounds Mechanic Jason Williams. From repairing air conditioning units to removing wasps, he works to keep GCRC's facilities safe and functioning properly. It's the variety that, he says, keeps him on his toes. He began working for GCRC in 2002 and worked as a Mechanic for over 16 years before moving to this position for "a change of pace."

Williams picked up several skills by watching his father who was also a mechanic. Continuing the family tradition, his son is also interested in the automotive field.



*Jason Williams
Building & Grounds Mechanic*

As the Building and Grounds Mechanic, Williams is in a unique situation where he gets to interact with employees from all departments. That's one of the things he likes best about his job. "You spend more time with these people than you do with parts of your family, so they become family," he said.



"He has that gift that he can fix anything or figure out how to make it work better. I'm very lucky to have Jason Williams in my department. - Chris Anspach"

2023 may be his last year working for GCRC, as he is eligible for retirement in December. But with no plans in mind and being well under 50 years old, anything is possible.

New Hires

Tanner Williston
Journeyman Electrician
Patrick Patterson
Equipment Operator
David Matusik
Equipment Operator

Zachary Bradshaw
Equipment Operator
Dexter Graham
Engineering Aide II
Thomas Derwin
Engineering Aide II

Transfer

Todd Bigler
Construction Project
Engineer

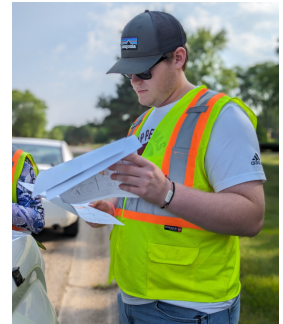
Summer Employees



Dylan DuBose
Atlas Garage



Joey Dore
Fleet Maintenance & Facilities Dept.



Connor Cassavoy
Engineering Dept.



Cameron Manns
Metro Garage



Kenny Minto III
Otisville Garage



Isiah Pasik
Montrose Garage



JayVarion Peters-Johnson
Metro Garage



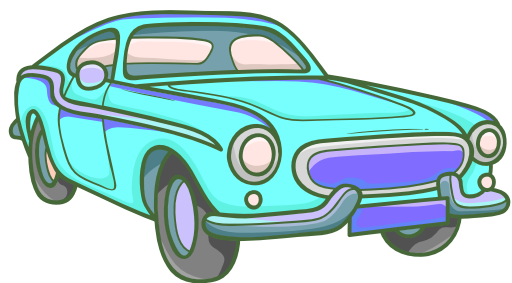
Nathan Quast
Montrose Garage



Sam Rensberger
Traffic Engineering Dept.

WE NEED YOU!

Please sign up to volunteer at GCRC's Back to the Bricks booth!



August 18 & 19 at the Flat Lot

your face
here



See Kylie Dontje to sign up



The Genesee County Road Commission will be closed July 4 & 5 in observance of Independence Day.



Genesee County Road Commission
211 W. Oakley St. Flint, MI 48503