

Starke County Highway Department Monthly Report – November 5th , 2018

ROADS PAVING PROGRAM

Our asphalt paving is complete for the year, as is our chip sealing. As the chart below shows, September was a busy month for our road crew. We have completed over 50 miles of road improvements. We began crack sealing operations today. Once that is complete our road improvements for 2018 will be done. Other than the crack sealing October will be primarily focused on winterizing the plow trucks, winter operations training, routine road maintenance, and some culvert/bridge work.

TREATMENT	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	TOTAL
Crack Seal	0	0	0	0	0	6.45	6.45
Re-gravel	0	1	1	2	0	0	4
Hot Mix Asphalt	1.3	1.53	0.6	0.15	0	0	3.58
Chip Seal	0	0	0	0	17.35	0	17.35
Cold Mix Asphalt	6.9	4.75	4.56	4.33	6.009	0	26.549
	8.2	7.28	6.16	6.48	23.359	6.45	57.93

Community Crossings Grant Projects

We have submitted our four projects in the first round of the 2018 Community Crossings Grant applications. INDOT will be awarding these projects some time in the next few weeks.

PRIORITY	PROJECT LOCATION	PROJECT TYPE	COST ESTIMATE	INDOT CCMG GRANT	NOTES
1	Bridge 154 Replacement on 100E, north of 400N	Bridge Replacement	\$400,643.00	\$296,475.82	Application Submitted, this project has already been bid. construction will begin this month
2	Bridge 36 over Eagle Creek, on 25N, .2 miles West of CR600E*	Bridge Replacement	\$316,408.97	\$237,308.73	Application submitted. Project completed earlier this year
3	The Intersection of CR210 and 600S/Old SR10, realignment*	Intersection Improvement	\$159,149.00	\$109,149.00	Application submitted
4	CR25N from 600E to SR23	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance*	\$561,183.00	<u>\$344,853.00</u>	Application Submitted
				\$987,786.55	
5	Range Road from SR10 to Toto Road	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$650,853.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	400S from US421 to CR650W	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$605,692.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	CR50S from SR39 to the Knox city limits	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$889,696.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	CR250N from Range Road to US35	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$777,777.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	CR25N from US35 to County Bridge #38	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$254,919.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	CR1100E (Tecumsah Road) from US30 to Circle Ave	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$462,945.00		Application prepared and ready for next round
5	CR600E from US30 to the Laporte County Line	HMA Overlay, Preventive Maintenance	\$497,070.00		Application prepared and ready for next round

INDOT 2024 CALL FOR PROJECTS

INDOT has announced the application period for the 2024 call for projects (see attached),. We will be using the applications for the road projects not selected in the Community Crossings grant to submit for this grant and further advance our 10-year hot mix truck route program. The only possible exception is if a bridge is deemed in need of replacement in our current round of bridge inspections

FEMA Reimbursement

We have finalized our application and are waiting for an answer from FEMA as to potential reimbursement.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

During the course of 2018 we have spent funds we knew might be reimbursable. These included the repairs required by the spring flooding and transmission line installations in California and North Bend Townships. It also includes work for the park board, the trail group, and other receipts.

1) Damage reimbursement	\$104,454.49	MVH Bituminous and Sand/Gravel
2) County auction	\$15,271.53	Truck and Road Equipment Repair
3) Fuel Tax Refund	\$15,887.02	Gas, Oil, and Lube
4) Vendor Refund	\$555.62	Training and Travel
5) Labor	\$887.34	Truck Driver and Part Time Help
6) Utility Permit Fees	\$2,836.00	Utilities
7) Sale of Stone	\$7,554.70	MVH Sand/Gravel
8) Signs	\$1,237.48	Signs
9) Insurance Reimbursement	\$21,856	Truck and Road Equipment Repair
10) Other Receipts	\$3,897.80	Gas, Oil, and Lube

TOTAL --- \$174,437.88

TRAINING

October is always big training month for us. The summer paving season is over, we are preparing for winter, and many organizations schedule training events that are available to us.

- 1) Eleven of our newest drivers attended the annual IPEP safety training in Plymouth on October 17th. The agenda included winter weather safety, distracted driving, hazard awareness, and other safety topics.
- 2) Mark Ennis of Bliss-McKnight brought the driving simulator to our garage during the last week in October. The drivers all look forward to this training each year. Each year Mark uses a slightly different program with new hazards and obstacles for the drivers to negotiate.
- 3) He also taught his annual snow plow safety training class at the same time. Mark does a good job presenting the material and we appreciate what he does for our Department.
- 4) The Superintendent attended the annual County Bridge conference on October 16th at Purdue University.
- 5) Weekly meeting trainings that included: Three points of contact, How to maintain a constant safety awareness, crack sealing procedures, etc.. an example of a weekly meeting sign in sheet is included

November trainings include

- 1) LTAP/Purdue Road Scholar class #10
- 2) Indiana/Kentucky 811/Locate Damage Prevention Conference – Our Sign Technician, Louis Somerfield was awarded a scholarship to attend this training that includes hotel and conference fees. He is the worker who does the greatest number of “digs” for us over the course of the year. This is a potential area of loss for us so we feel it is important that our “diggers” are well trained.

There are five different training sources we use for our over training program

- 1) LTAP/Purdue Road Scholar training and LTAP Perdue training app.
- 2) Bliss-McKnight and other outside agency trainings
- 3) Morning Meeting Trainings
- 4) On the Job training
- 5) Conferences and trade shows



ACCREDITATION

We have spoken in the past about obtaining APWA accreditation. We will be beginning the process in January of 2019. The new office manager will also be our accreditation manager for the process. They will be responsible for coordinating with the APWA accreditation staff. The APWA has created many different standard operating procedures that they feel need to be followed to be a successful public works agency. We follow most of their procedures already. We just need to document them to meet their standards. The process will take about two years. Currently there are about seven agencies in Indiana that have been accredited.

PERSONNEL

Office Manager Position – Over the last week we interviewed 25 applicants for the position. We are bringing back two or three for a second interview. We hope to have the new person begin on December 3rd.

We also have the need for another office position. We have more reporting requirements because of the latest gas tax raise. We also need someone who can complete the great deal of data entry work for our asset management inventories these include:

- 1) Roadsoft inventory data (Roads, Bridges, PASER ratings, etc.)
- 2) GIS/WTH data entry
- 3) Fuel System data
- 4) Equipment Inventory
- 5) Sign Inventory
- 6) Locate data

They also will be assisting the lead mechanic with the parts inventory, ordering, and invoicing.

Currently the office manager do the data entry work when we have spare time but we have not been able to consistently keep up.

We will be eliminating four part time positions to fund this new position. The two new full time workers and the Work One help that we get will replace the work lost by eliminating the positions

VEHICLES

We have received quotes for our next truck purchase in accordance with our twenty year vehicle replacement plan. Best Ford had the lowest quote at \$29,880 for a Ford F-250. The truck will arrive sometime early next year.

BRIDGES

BRIDGE MAINTENANCE

We crack sealed all of our 57 bridge decks this month. We also received a “to-do” list for further bridge maintenance from our bridge inspections consultant.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE

