

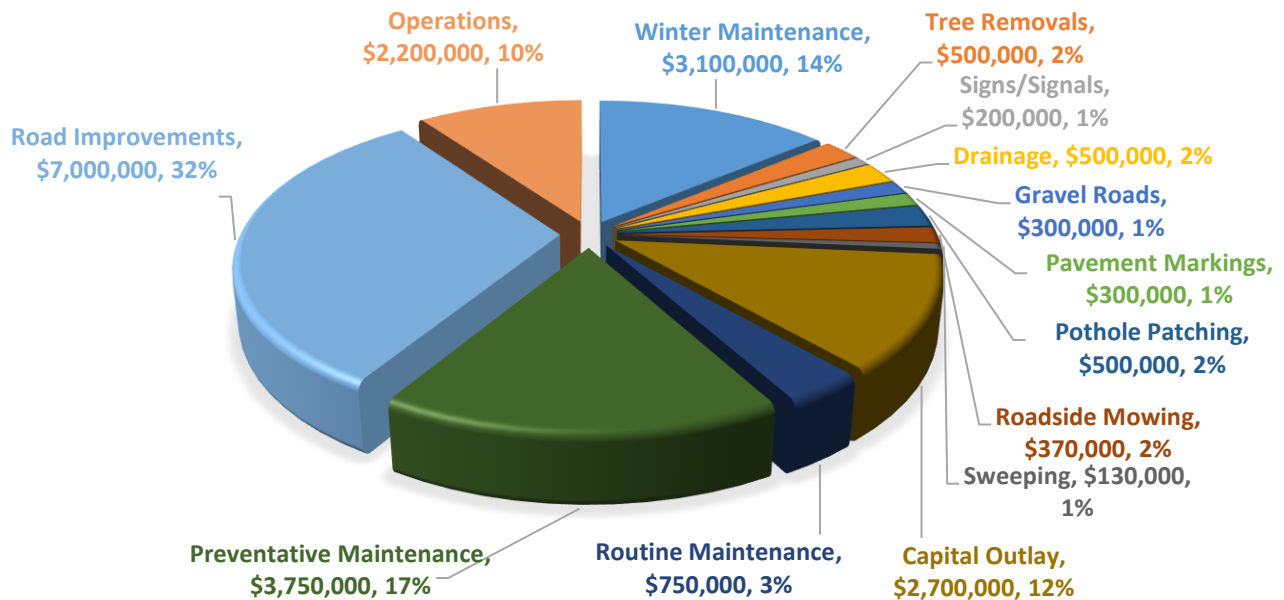


The Road Newsletter, Volume 6, Issue 10

October 2016

## 2017 Budget Approved

At the last regular Board meeting in September, the Road Commission adopted the fiscal year 2017 budget based on the anticipated revenues from the Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), countywide road millage, Township contributions, and the MDOT maintenance contract. The 2017 revenues that are anticipated to be generated from the MTF have been budgeted at 22.3 million dollars.



### OCRC General Operating Fund

	2015 Actual	2016 Budget	2017 Budget
Michigan Transportation Funds (MTF)	\$19,488,876	\$21,360,000	\$22,300,000
Federal and State Sources	\$ 5,943,090	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 4,000,000
State Trunkline Maintenance	\$ 4,577,474	\$ 4,300,000	\$ 3,700,000
Township Revenues	\$10,203,657	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Countywide Road Millage	\$ 0	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 4,000,000
Other Revenues	\$ 30,695	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,243,792</b>	<b>\$39,795,000</b>	<b>\$39,135,000</b>

## Snowplow Roadeo

The Midwest Michigan Branch of the American Public Works Association recently held the 2016 Snowplow Roadeo at the City of Wyoming Public Services Department facilities. The Roadeo is a competition for a two-member team on an obstacle course designed to simulate actual snow plowing driving operations where drivers are timed and scored for accuracy, safety, and speed.



The obstacle course was laid out with cones and barrels to challenge the driver's ability to operate a plow truck through stations that simulate maneuvering around parked cars, inside and outside curves, diminishing clearance, offset intersections, serpentine paths, and backing into a loading dock. In addition to the obstacle course, the Roadeo competition also required the two-person teams to perform a diagnostic exam on a truck, and attend two educational sessions.

The Road Commission sent representatives from the Coopersville, Grand Haven, Hudsonville, and North Holland garages to compete in the Roadeo. All of the teams did very well, with the team of Gerald VanHouten and John Gappa representing the Coopersville garage finishing 4<sup>th</sup> overall out of 32 teams.



The Roadeo also provided an opportunity for local road agencies to show off their pride of the fleet. Shown in the photo to the left is a newly completed tandem axle truck with a wing on each side that was fabricated in the North Holland garage.

It was a fantastic day for learning and sharing new tips, tricks, what works and what doesn't, as well as seeing the latest equipment from the vendors.

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## Strategic Improvement Plan Approved

The Road Commission developed its Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) to help manage the transportation assets of the Road Commission, identify improvement needs, determine sources to finance projects, and inform the public about transportation improvement needs and the financial restraints of the Road Commission.

The SIP covers a six year period that identifies planned expenditures on the county road system including the type, location, estimated costs, and improvement year for specific projects. This process is utilized to help the Road Commission reevaluate, modify, and approve the SIP on an annual basis. The Road Commission is pleased to announce that the 2017-2022 Strategic Improvement Plan has been approved and can be found on our website, [www.ottawacorc.com](http://www.ottawacorc.com).

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## Leave a Ditch Alone

Fall has arrived and it's time to ask the annual question: What do I do with all these leaves? Unfortunately, the Road Commission does not provide a leaf or yard debris pick up service. Residents should use a local refuse service, or if available, a Township drop off site to dispose of leaves. It is important to keep leaves out of ditches and storm drains in order to maintain proper drainage, prevent flooding and protect the water quality in local streams and lakes in Ottawa County.



Residents are reminded not to pile leaves in the street. Leaves piled in the street can be hazardous to both motorists and bicycles. Remember, property owners are responsible and bear the liability for leaves that are placed in the street, or cause safety or flooding hazards.

It is also suggested to keep sidewalks and paths clear of leaves and other seasonal debris that can cause slipping or tripping hazards.

For more information concerning leaf disposal options, please contact your local refuse service or Township.

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## New Faces in Hudsonville Garage

After 41 years of service, Mike TerHorst retired this past July from the Road Commission. Mike started his career at the Road Commission as a common laborer at the Zeeland Garage. After a few years, he moved into a Heavy Equipment Operator position and then was promoted to the Assistant District Supervisor for Hudsonville and Zeeland Garages in 1989. In 1994, Mike was awarded the Hudsonville Garage District Supervisor position of which he held until his retirement. Congratulations Mike!



With 18 years of experience, the Road Commission is pleased to announce that Mike Waldner was recently promoted as Hudsonville District Supervisor. Mike started in 1998 as Mechanic at the Hudsonville Garage, then moved into a Light Equipment Operator role 1999. He was awarded the Hudsonville and North Holland Assistant District Supervisor position in 2011 until he accepted the District Supervisor position in May to replace the recently retired Mike TerHorst. Congratulations Mike!

The Road Commission is pleased to announce that Paul Kamphuis has hired as the new Hudsonville and North Holland District Supervisor. Paul comes to the Road Commission with 13 years of experience in managing multiple projects related to road and bridge construction. Paul holds a degree in Building Construction Technology from Ferris State University. Please welcome Paul to the Road Commission team.

Shown in the photo on the left is Paul Kamphuis and on the right is Mike Waldner, the Assistant and District Hudsonville Supervisors respectively.

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## Important Dates

Thursday – October 13, 2016 | 9AM | Board Meeting

Thursday – October 27, 2016 | 9AM | Board Meeting



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Grand Haven, Michigan 49417  
616-842-5400  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday; 7:30AM-4PM



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The Ottawa County Road Commissioners: Tom Bird | Tom Elhart | Betty Gajewski | Tim Grifhorst | Jim Miedema  
Managing Director: Brett Laughlin

***Who manages the roads and how are they funded?*** The Ottawa County Road Commission manages the roads--not the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners or County staff. The Ottawa County Road Commission is primarily funded by fuel taxes and vehicle registrations. Concerns about roads should be directed to the Ottawa County Road Commission. Questions? [Contact Us](#)

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