



September 2021 | Volume 11 | Issue 9 | [SHARE](#)

Byron Rd. bridge a part of state pilot program



Local Agency Bridge Bundle Program

Current Pilot Bundle
 19
 0 Completed

Program Mission: Develop a bridge bundle program that ensures public safety, to Michigan residents, travelers and visitors, resulting in sustained improvements to the state's wide bridge system.

Program Objective: Eliminate the number of closed lanes of critical local agency bridges and bring them to a state of good repair to eventually reach zero critical bridges in Michigan with these proactive system improvements that drive economic development, while partnering and collaborating with local agencies and the communities of Michigan.

Program Goals:

- Reduce the number of service and critical bridges among the 19 bridges.
- Develop Michigan's larger program in a statewide and cooperative program using this pilot.
- Work together to develop maintenance and lifecycle bridge span management plans.
- Define milestones including bridge partnerships between MDOT, MCL, CMA and individual bridge owners.

The Byron Road bridge over the Black River in Zeeland Township is one of the bridges that are a part of the new bridge bundling pilot program that encompasses 19 bridge locations across the state of Michigan.

Work is scheduled to begin on the Byron Rd. bridge later this month and be completed within 60-90 days.

The planned detour route for the project is Byron Rd./64th Ave./Chicago Dr.

The scope of work for this and the other bridges is superstructure replacement, which includes full removal and replacement of the bridge deck and supporting beams.

To help keep track of the pilot program, the Michigan Department of Transportation has created a new online dashboard at Michigan.gov/BridgeBundling. This portal will provide project updates and percent completion, detour routes, and other information on the Byron Rd. bridge, and other state bridge projects.

By combining several contracts into one, bridge bundling allows one contractor, or one group of contractors, to work on multiple bridges in several locations, simultaneously, if needed. This can bring taxpayer savings through the standardization of bridge components and mobilization costs. The contract for the pilot program was awarded in March to a joint venture of two bridge contractors, CA Hull and Anlaan, with Alfred Benesch as the lead designer, for the low bid of \$24.3 million.

Winter 2021-22 salt prices come into focus



While winter is still a few months away, the Ottawa County Road Commission is beginning to plan for the winter maintenance season and its annual allocation of road salt.

The OCRC will pay \$62.08 per ton for an allocation of 20,000 tons of road salt for the winter -- a decrease of about 10 percent per ton compared to the the 2020-21 winter maintenance season.

The Road Commission is committed to purchasing at least 80 percent of the allocated tonnage, and has guaranteed pricing for up to 130 percent of the salt at the contracted price. Anything that is purchased beyond that allocation, and the OCRC could wind up paying extra.

Each year in April, the Road Commission orders its winter salt supply via the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget's MiDeal statewide purchasing program.

Prices aren't known until later in the year once salt companies bid on the contracts.

Back to school traffic safety reminder

It's back to school time here in Ottawa County, which means the return of school busses here in Ottawa County for the 2021-22 school year.

With vehicles once again sharing the road with students heading to and from school each day, it's important that we all keep an extra look out for traveling students.



Here's a refresher on how to react when driving near a school bus. Remember to treat the bus lights like a traffic signal.

- Flashing Yellow Lights=Prepare to Stop.
- Flashing Red Lights=STOP!
- Flashing Hazard Warning Lights=Proceed with Caution.

By following these steps, you can ensure that everyone has a safe commute during, before and after-school hours.

Still time to review, comment on 5-year SIP



There is still time for public comment and review on the Ottawa County Road Commission's latest Road Commission transportation plan -- the *2022-2026 Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP)*.

The draft version is available for review and public comment on the OCRC's website -- .

The plan, revised each year, is based on an annual review of county road assets in order to identify improvement needs, and determine economical methods to finance improvement and maintenance projects.

Before the Road Commission finalizes this new plan, it is vital to the process to gather input and comments about the proposed projects within this draft plan from our local governmental partners and the general public.

All comments and feedback is asked to be received by Friday, Sept. 10, 2021. The feedback is strongly encouraged and are greatly appreciated.

If you have questions or require additional information, you can contact our main office at 616-842-5400 or email info@ottawacorc.com.



The Ottawa County Road Commission wishes everyone in Ottawa County a relaxing and safe Labor Day holiday!

As a reminder, in observance of the holiday, the OCRC will be closed on Friday, Sept. 3, and Monday, Sept. 6. We will reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 7:30 a.m.

Important Dates:

September 3 & 6, 2021 | Office Closed for Labor Day

September 9, 2021 | 9 a.m. | Board Meeting

September 23, 2021 | 9 a.m. | Board Meeting

[View Meeting Minutes & Agendas](#)



14110 Lakeshore Drive | Grand Haven, Michigan | 49417
616-842-5400 | [Contact Us](#) | Office Hours: Monday-Friday; 7:30AM-4PM

The Ottawa County Road Commissioners:

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