



County Road Association
OF MICHIGAN

417 SEYMOUR AVE., STE. 1, LANSING, MI 48933-1143

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Contact: Monica Ackerson Ware, APR
Phone: 517-482-1189, ext. 417
Cell: 517-749-2322
Email: mware@localroads.net

CRA Applauds Legislature and Governor for Action on Road Funding

The County Road Association (CRA) of Michigan today expressed wholehearted support for the \$1.2 billion road funding package approved by the Michigan Senate and House yesterday.

"We recognize it required extraordinary leadership on the parts of Speaker Cotter and Senate Majority Leader Meekhof to get this done," said Denise Donohue, director of the County Road Association. "And Governor Snyder is to be applauded for never wavering from the \$1.2 billion figure and for his determination to pass a transportation package in this legislative session."

"We didn't get into this pavement condition overnight and it will take some time before motorists see improvements. New funding beyond the current levels will not begin to be collected until early 2017. This means that drivers won't see a higher level of new projects than what we've been doing, until that summer and the months and years that follow," Donohue said.

"When you realize that Michigan has 90,000 miles of county roads; that only about 18 percent of our roads are in good condition; and that it costs \$250,000 or more per mile to re-construct a mile of local road or \$100,000 plus to resurface that mile – the math quickly reveals that it's going to take time to restore the system," Donohue said. Michigan's county road agencies are eager to have new revenue for projects to work with in coming years. They can now plan road and bridge improvements in more concrete terms when talking with their townships, counties, municipalities and local business communities.

"Our members are eager to get on about our business of restoring the roads and bridges," said Burt Thompson, PE, president of the County Road Association and engineer-manager of the Antrim County Road Commission. "We know this was a very difficult decision in the House of Representatives and we stand behind all of those representatives who took this stance to increase revenue to road and bridge repair. Thank you."

The 83 members of the County Road Association represent the unified, credible and effective voice for a safe and efficient local road system in Michigan, collectively managing more than 73 percent of all roads in the state – more than 90,000 miles and 5,700 bridges— the fourth-largest county road system in the nation.

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