



County Road Association
OF MICHIGAN

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Lenawee County Road Commission building relationships to find solutions

LANSING, MI – The Lenawee County Road Commission (LCRC) is receiving statewide attention for its efforts to get to ‘yes’ within its community. Lenawee’s efforts foster a space for better connections between the public and the commission.

“We have worked to develop policies and procedures that allow us to say ‘yes’ to our townships, the public and private contractors,” said LCRC managing director Scott Merillat, PE. “We’re always thinking about how we can work with people to get what we both want.”

A new and improved process for right-of-way permit applications is a shining example of how the road agency is working to meet the needs of property owners while protecting the public’s interest in the road and LCRC’s responsibility for possible damages.

Because of the many lakes in Lenawee County, there are numerous cases where a property owner’s house and garage are on opposite sides of the road, which can require utility work done under the road.

“In the past, we would deny all permit applications to cross the road, although we knew it was happening without our review or approval,” noted Merillat. So, Lenawee figured out a way to get to ‘yes.’

To learn more about how LCRC is working to build relationships and find solutions for the community, read the spring issue of *Crossroads* magazine, the quarterly journal of the County Road Association (CRA) of Michigan, which can be viewed digitally or downloaded at micountyroads.org/Crossroads.

The 83 members of the County Road Association of Michigan represent the unified voice for a safe and efficient county transportation infrastructure system in Michigan, including appropriate stewardship of the public’s right-of-way in rural and urban Michigan. Collectively, Michigan’s county road agencies manage 75% of all roads in the state, including 90,500 miles of roads and 5,900 bridges. County road agencies also maintain the state’s highway system in 63 counties. Michigan has the nation’s fourth-largest local road system.

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