



**County Road Association**  
OF MICHIGAN

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April 15, 2022

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Macomb County utilizes design-build in largest local government project in the state**

LANSING, MI – Macomb County Department of Roads (MCDR) is taking a new route with an innovative \$218 million Mound Road Project. The project claims to be the first county road project to use the design-build (DB) approach. This is the largest local government project ever let in the state, MCDR says.

Design-build, typically requires 30% plans finalized before moving onto develop the procurement documents which the DB team bids on. Upon award the DB team may begin some construction without complete plans, including innovations identified, during the procurement process. The design builder (design firm and contractor) finishes the design plans as construction begins.

Dennis Cooper, construction engineer, John Crumm, MCRD director of planning, and Scott Wanagat, PE, county highway engineer, said that the Innovative Mound Project is more than a reconstruct, with many leading-edge features being added.

“The important thing to remember is that the road agency is still in control with a design build,” said Crumm. “As a team we review what the contractor and planner submit, and we can decide what we would like to go through with. We are not losing control of our project.”

To learn more about MCDR’s design-build, read the Spring 2022 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](http://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 percent of all roads in the state, including 90,000 miles of roads and 5,700 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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