



County Road Association
OF MICHIGAN

101 S. WASHINGTON SQUARE, STE. 200
LANSING, MI 48933

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CONTACT: Betty McNerney
(517) 482-1189
bmcnerney@micountyroads.org

**Genesee County Road Commission honored
with three statewide IMPRESS awards!**

LANSING, MI – The Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) received three statewide IMPRESS Awards at the 2023 County Road Association (CRA) Highway Conference held March 22 in Lansing. IMPRESS Awards recognize county road agencies that demonstrate innovation on notable projects in the categories of Communications, Operations and Collaboration.



This year, GCRC received an IMPRESS award in Collaboration for *“Encouraging Better Subdivision Streets;”* an award in Communications for *“National Work Zone Awareness Week;”* and an award in Operations for *“Atlas Dam Spillway Rehabilitation.”*

“Genesee County Road Commission’s three awards showcase their commitment to safe and efficient operations,” said Denise Donohue, CRA CEO. “By ensuring work zone safety and finding creative ways to limit spending, the road commission continues to serve the Genesee community.”

Collaboration

To incentivize the use of Special Assessment Districts (SADs) to fund local subdivision roadway improvements, the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) implemented a new policy to fund construction costs. GCRC and the township each pay 10% (up to \$150,000) of a project's cost until GCRC's maximum total contribution of \$500,000 is exhausted. As of January 2023, Genesee County townships have submitted four SAD projects totaling \$360,000.

Communications

To increase work zone safety, Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) participated in National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW), in April 2022. GCRC conducted work zone safety training for equipment operators and held a conference at a work zone. GCRC hired a sign language interpreter and live streamed the event on Facebook to reach a broader audience. GCRC purchased orange NWZAW shirts for all employees and posted messages on social media pages.

Operations

In 2018, perforations were found along the spillway of the Atlas Dam, originally constructed in 1835. The Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) oversaw the dam repairs, and rather than spend \$2 million on a replacement culvert, GCRC sprayed a Quadex[®] geopolymer mortar on the damaged area to strengthen the culvert. This project took only three weeks to complete, minimizing delays to the public, and cost the road commission only \$697,800.

An independent panel of communications and operations experts from several of Michigan's 83 county road agencies judged all IMPRESS Awards submissions. Award recipients were honored for projects that solved time constraints, labor costs, communication barriers and fostered collaboration.

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 90,000 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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