

# 2023 MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER'S ANNUAL REPORT

By: Andrew J. Conrad, P.E., P.S., Medina County Engineer

To the Board of Medina County Commissioners

It is my privilege to present the Annual Report for the Office of the Medina County Engineer. In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, an annual report must be made to the Board of County Commissioners summarizing the activities of the County Engineer's office. It also provides a summary to the citizens of Medina County of an accounting of where their tax dollars were spent in order to improve and maintain the County's 323.60 miles of roads and 282 bridges.

The employees of the Medina County Engineer's Office work everyday to provide the motoring public and residents of Medina County with a safe and well-maintained network of county roads and bridges. Our mission is to ensure a safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation system in Medina County. We provide highway engineering, maintenance, and planning services while prioritizing safety, innovation, and collaboration. Our goal is to optimize connectivity, support economic growth, and provide quality service to the public. I want to offer a sincere "Thank-you" to all of the employees for a great year of not only maintaining, but improving, the infrastructure under the jurisdiction of this office.

## UNDERSTANDING MOTOR FUEL TAX REVENUE

Gasoline -

State -	\$0.385 per gallon (Gas Excise Tax)
Federal -	\$0.184 per gallon

The 38.5 cents state gas excise tax is distributed based on the Ohio Revised Code.

Diesel -

State -	\$0.470 per gallon (Excise Tax)
Federal -	\$0.184 per gallon

In 2019 HB62 added an additional tax in the amount of \$0.105 per gallon to gasoline and \$0.190 per gallon of diesel fuel. Each of Ohio's 88 County Engineers receive an equivalent share of the motor fuel tax revenue. The distribution of funds is independent of where the fuel was purchased.

## VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Due to supply chain issues and material availability, a number of vehicles and pieces of equipment that were ordered in 2022 were not delivered and paid for until 2023. This trend has continued, as some of the equipment and vehicles ordered in 2023 will be delivered in 2024. The more expensive items include a Freightliner cab and chassis for a new Bucket Truck, Western Star Plow Truck, two Ford F150 pickups, and a Ford Escape.

## BRIDGE DATA

The State of Ohio defines a bridge as a structure that has a span of 10 feet or more. The Medina County Engineer is responsible for maintaining bridges on County and Township roads within Medina County. We are required to perform an annual inspection of the condition of every bridge on our inventory and report the results to ODOT and FHWA.

Below is a summary of the condition of the 282 bridges that we maintain.

<u>CONDITION DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BRIDGE GENERAL APPRAISAL</u>	<u>NUMBER OF BRIDGES</u>	<u>PERCENT OF TOTAL BRIDGES</u>	<u>ACCUMULATING PERCENT</u>
EXCELLENT	9	38	13.5%	13.5%
VERY GOOD	8	42	14.9%	28.4%
GOOD	7	91	32.3%	60.6%
SATISFACTORY	6	61	21.6%	82.3%
FAIR	5	39	13.8%	96.1%
POOR	4	9	3.2%	99.3%
SERIOUS	3	2	0.7%	100.0%
CRITICAL	2	0	0.0%	100.0%
OUT OF SERVICE	1	0	0.0%	100.0%

### **CH 35, Friendsville Road – Bridge #8 Replacement**

Contractor: J.D. Williamson Construction Co.

This project consisted of the rehabilitation of the abutments and piers and replacement of the superstructure of a 3-span bridge over the CSX Transportation railroad.

Final Contract Price: \$1,162,089

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and CEAO (\$1,103,985 Grant)

### **CH 56, Lester Road - Bridge #18 & CH 65, Spieth Road – Bridge #19 Replacements**

Contractor: N&N Construction

This project consisted of the removal of failing multi-cell pipe bridges and the installation of four-sided concrete box culverts.

Final Contract Price: \$393,966

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and OPWC (\$303,750 Grant)

County forces performed maintenance on additional bridges that included guardrail post replacement, guardrail repairs, deck sealing, pavement repair, and deck repair.

The bridge replacement contracts had an aggregate total of \$1,556,055. Of that amount, my office secured \$1,407,735 in federal and state grants.

## ROADWAY RESURFACING CONTRACT EXPENDITURES

Below is a summary of the roadway resurfacing projects that were completed using contractors through the competitive bidding process.

### **2023 Medina County Item 441 Thin Overlay**

Contractor: Melway Paving Co., Inc.

Roads Resurfaced:

Granger Road - 2.68 Miles, Sterling Road - 1.24 Miles, River Styx Road - 2.31 Miles,  
Spieth Road - 1.75 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$997,275.50

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds

### **2023 Medina County Pavement Planing and Repair**

Contractor: Melway Paving Co., Inc.

Roads Repaired: Firestone Road, Old Weymouth Road, & Remsen Road

Final Contract Price: \$357,333.18

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds

### **2023 Medina County Item 422 Single Chip Seal**

Contractor: Melway Paving Co., Inc.

Roads Resurfaced:

Stony Hill Road - 1.55 Miles, Fixler Road - 2.52 Miles, Willow Road - 2.03 Miles  
Mud Lake Road - 0.12 Mile, Blake Road - 2.88 Miles, Neff Road - 1.64 Miles,  
Hulbert Road - 1.42 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$493,422.65 - Contract change orders have not been finalized.

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds

### **2023 Medina County Item 422 MC-3000 Chip & Seal**

Contractor: Sarver Paving Co.

Roads Resurfaced:

Zimmerrman Road - 2.45 Miles, Spencer Lake Road - 2.66 Miles, Spencer Mills Road - 0.67 Miles  
Williams Road - 2.59 Miles, Sanford Road - 1.19 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$476,899.30 - Contract change orders have not been finalized.

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds

### **2023 River Styx Road Improvement Project**

Contractor: Melway Paving Co., Inc.

C.H. 49 (North): 2.56 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$633,068.92

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and OPWC (\$430,500.00 grant)

**2023 Substation Road Improvement Project**

Contractor: Perrin Asphalt

C.H. 38: 1.01 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$299,812.85

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and OPWC (\$204,000.00 grant)

**MED-CR0049-05.62 (RIVER STYX RD)**

Contractor: Kokosing Construction Company, Inc.

C.H. 49: 1.79 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$821,349.01

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and NOACA (\$478,424.00 grant)

**MED-CR 070-3.36 (FENN RD)**

Contractor: Karvo Companies, Inc.

C.H. 70: 2.38 Miles

Final Contract Price: \$895,071.67 - Contract change orders have not been finalized

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and NOACA (\$724,500.00 maximum grant)

By the various contracts shown above, the Medina County Engineer resurfaced 37.44 miles of county roadways in 2023.

The roadway resurfacing contracts had a aggregate total of \$4,974,233. Of that amount, my office secured \$1,837,424 in federal and state grants.

**PAVEMENT MARKING**

**MED-CRPM-FY2023**

Contractor: J.D. Striping & Services, Inc.

166.31 Miles of White Edge Line

103.02 Miles of Yellow Centerline

Miscellaneous Markings

Final Contract Price: \$166,549.15

Funding Source: Medina County Engineer Funds and CEAO (\$165,087.00 grant)

## FORCE ACCOUNT UPDATE AND SUMMARY

Force account limits designate the amount of work the Medina County Highway Department can self-perform without having to competitively bid a project, as it relates to roadway and bridge improvements. For 20 years (from 2003 to 2023), this force account limit was unchanged. This year's Transportation Budget (H.B. 23 of the 135th General Assembly) addressed force account limits. It substantially increased the force account limit, which inherently allows counties to utilize their forces for more projects. The adjustments stemming from these changes, for the county level, are reflected below. These values are now increased annually based on ODOT's construction cost index.

	<u>Previous Force Account Limit</u>	<u>New Force Account Limit</u>
Highway Construction/Reconstruction	\$30,000 / mile	\$70,000 / mile
Bridge/Culvert Construction/Reconstruction	\$100,000 / project	\$230,000 / project

Below is a summary of work tasks that were completed using county employees and equipment with purchased materials.

\$504,943 - Snow & Ice Removal

\$215,535 - Pavement Patching

\$122,015 - Crack Sealing

\$507,277 - Berm/Shoulder Maintenance

\$619,713 - Ditch Maintenance

\$275,760 - Culvert Replacements/Maintenance

\$115,053 - Bridge Maintenance

\$6,718 - Sewer Jetting

\$171,554 - Roadside Mowing

\$394,193 - Tree Removal

\$1,142 - Vegetation Spraying

\$101,890 – Guardrail Maintenance

\$4,625 – Sign Maintenance

\$35,591 – Pavement Marking

\$3,713 – Mailbox Repair/Maintenance

\$7,815 – Miscellaneous

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\$3,087,537 – Total – This represents the amount of work completed by our county maintenance forces.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The maintenance, repair, and construction of roads and bridges on the County Highway System is funded primarily from portions of license plate fees collected for vehicles registered in Medina County and a share of the Ohio Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax. No real estate or sales tax is used for highway purposes. Federal gas tax and State Issue 1 funds are utilized on specific projects when our office is successful in securing these funds.

Below are the general summaries of the Expenses and Revenues for 2023

2023 EXPENSES		2023 REVENUES	
Salaries	\$3,116,284	License Plate Fees	\$6,701,672
Fringe Benefits	\$1,163,581	Gasoline Tax	\$3,827,153
New Equipment	\$420,367	Fees	\$383
Travel/Training	\$7,777	Fines	\$28,817
Road/Bridge Contract Repairs	\$3,031,247	Sales/Reimbursements	\$167,414
Contract Services	\$655,631	Investment Income	\$188,366
Materials/Fuel	\$884,410	Other	\$102,448
Land & R/W Acquisition	\$1,000		
Miscellaneous	\$33,792		
Total	\$9,314,089	Total	\$11,016,253

Our office was successful in securing numerous grants this year that were used to assist in a number of our contract projects. All grant money is not shown in the Financial Summary above.

At the end of 2023, an additional \$2,996,950.54 was encumbered to pay for contracts that were not yet completed. These encumbered funds do not show up as 2023 expenses.