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May 26, 2009

To: Township Supervisors & Clerks

Re: Annual Township & Road Commission Meeting Follow-up

As a follow-up to completing our annual township season, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the Townships for your assistance in helping the Road Commission to provide a substantial amount of local road improvements in 2008. And considering the total level of investment from the townships in our 2009 local road program it appears like we will have a significant level of investment in our local road.

Through the course of our annual meeting season we found that our township packet could be improved, so we added some information regarding road funding in Michigan (attached). Those townships who scheduled our annual meeting after March 1st received some of the attached pages in your packet and we had an opportunity to discuss these pages at our meeting. For those Townships that are receiving this information for the first time, please feel free to contact me to discuss this information. At several of the township meetings we were asked several questions about road funding, I have attached a brief summary to explain "How County Road are Funded".

The County Road Association of Michigan has had a committee established to collaborate with members of the Michigan Township Association to discuss mutual road concerns. This past winter this committee developed a quick guide to assist in understanding "Roads & Road Funding in Michigan"; I have attached a copy of this guide to further assist in understanding the road funding issues in Michigan. Also this spring the Michigan Asset Management Council has release the 2008 annual report, I have attached excerpts from this document to provide the state-wide summary of pavement conditions.

The most substantial story that unfolded through the last few months relates to the federal stimulus funding (see our May 8th Newsletter). The short story on the federal stimulus funding is we submitted a request for \$50 million in "shovel ready" road projects and we received \$3.5 million. The federal stimulus revenue will be received over the next 2 years and will be added to our federal-aid paved road preventative maintenance programs. In total we will be performing preventative maintenance on nearly 90 miles this year and we anticipate a similar amount in 2010. We have established a link on our web site home page "2009 Economic Stimulus" to help the public monitor this ever evolving program. Also the "Road Work" tab will be updated as additional township agreements are completed to provide the complete story of all the major primary and local road improvement projects.

And finally we have established a link on our web site home page that will serve as a clearing house of all the information we have distributed to the Townships related to our annual meeting. Hopefully you will find the attached information useful and we continue to use our web site as an inventory of general reference material to serve as a quick reference source. You can find the Township Updates under the News tab on our home page.

Once again we thank you for helping the Road Commission to improve the quality and safety of our roads and non-motorized systems for our traveling public.

Sincerely,
Steven Puuri