



2024 Annual Report to the Community

WCRC Board

The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) marked 2024 as a year of renewed and strengthened partnerships. Key milestones included voters approving the Four-Year County-wide Roads and Non-Motorized Millage, and our enhanced communication efforts with all 20 townships to uphold our commitment to providing a safe and reliable transportation system for the people of Washtenaw County.

This year, WCRC Commissioners Jo Ann McCollum and Jeff Smrz were reappointed to serve another six-year term, set to end on December 31, 2030. We're thrilled that both will continue contributing their expertise to help WCRC deliver excellent service to the community.

To further improve communication with our 20 townships, WCRC introduced individual Township pages on our website. These pages offer valuable resources, including our Local Road Funding Packet and up-to-date lists of ongoing projects within each township. We also expanded our community engagement by participating in more local events—be sure to visit our events page in this report!

During the construction season, we successfully improved and preserved nearly 125 miles of roads across Washtenaw County. Our dedicated employees have also shown resilience in the face of challenging weather conditions in 2024, proving their commitment to ensuring safe travel for all.

A heartfelt thank you to Washtenaw County voters for renewing and restoring the Four-Year County Roads and Non-Motorized Millage. Nearly 70% of voters expressed their support for WCRC's continued efforts to maintain the county's transportation infrastructure.

We're incredibly proud of the progress WCRC has made in 2024. We hope this annual report provides insight into our efforts, and we look forward to building on our achievements in 2025.

Sincerely,
Barbara Ryan Fuller



Barbara Ryan Fuller, chair



Rodrick K. Green, vice chair



Gloria Llamas, member



Jo Ann McCollum, member



Jeffery Smrz, member

WCRC's Stats

1,650 miles

WCRC is responsible for 1,650 centerline miles of certified public roads throughout the county.

743 miles

743 miles of these roads are unpaved.

598 miles

In addition, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) contracts WCRC to maintain 598 lane miles of state highways within the county.

125 bridges

There are 125 bridges located on county roads under WCRC's jurisdiction.

40,000 signs

WCRC maintains more than 40,000 road signs located across the county.

178 signals

WCRC owns 115 stop-and-go traffic signals and maintains 63 additional stop-and-go traffic signals on behalf of MDOT.

136 employees

WCRC's dedicated employees work year-round, in every weather condition, to provide the best road system possible for the people of Washtenaw County. Employees and maintenance yards are strategically positioned across the county to provide quick response in support of the county's first responders and the traveling public.

Financial Report

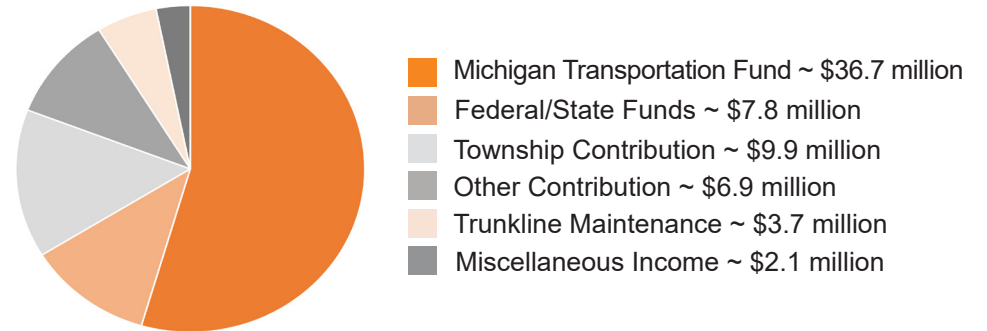
Revenues

As shown in the chart on the right, WCRC is projecting to receive approximately \$67.4 million in revenue in 2024. The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) is the largest source of revenue for WCRC at approximately \$36.7 million. The majority of MTF revenue is generated by the Michigan state fuel tax and license/registration fees and then distributed to MDOT, county road agencies and cities/villages through the Act 51 formula.

Federal/State dollars are another important source of revenue for WCRC. In 2024, all of the revenue in this category was programmed for specific projects.

Townships are another important source of revenue for WCRC. Check out “Partnering with Townships on Local Roads” in this report to learn more.

The Four-Year County Roads and Non-Motorized Millage, renewed by voters in 2024, is projected to generate approximately \$5 million for WCRC in 2025. Millage revenue is reflected in the “Other Contribution” category. Learn more about the road projects funded by the millage in the 2024 Year-End Millage Report insert.

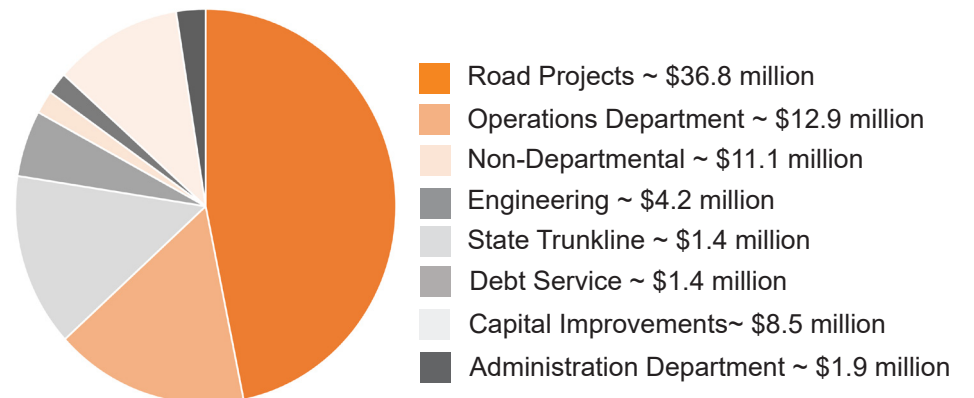


Expenses

The WCRC board and staff work hard to strike an appropriate balance between improving the road system while also investing in staff, equipment and facilities. WCRC had approximately \$82 million in expenses in 2024.

As is typical, a majority of WCRC’s spending went directly into road and bridge projects this year. The \$40.2 million “Road Projects” category is a combination of WCRC, township, county millage, state and federally funded projects on both primary and local roads across the county.

The largest expense, outside of road projects, is staff. WCRC has a total 136 authorized full-time positions split between the Operations, Engineering and Administration Departments.



Visit wcroads.org to see the full 2024 budget year-end report and the 2025 budget.

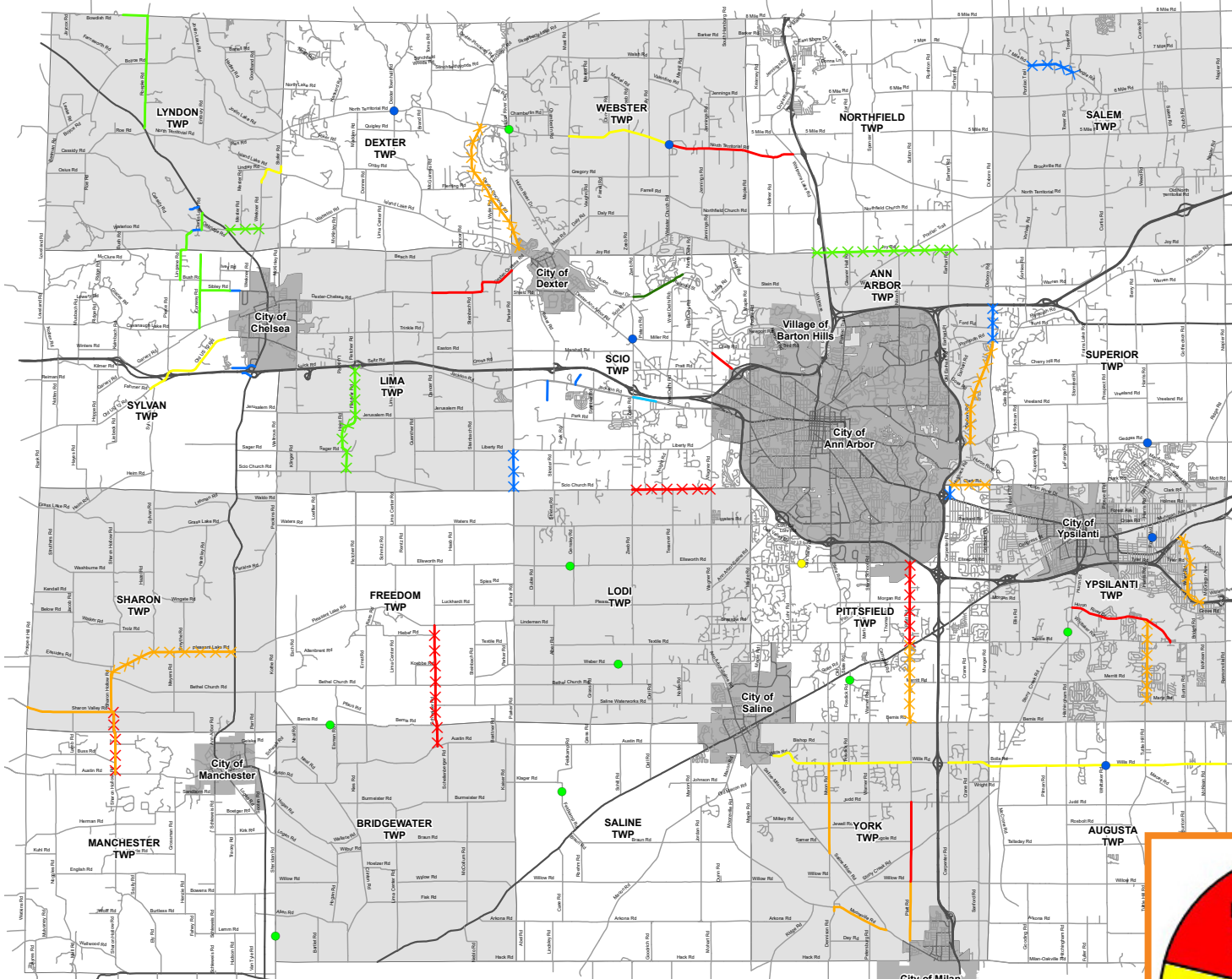


Pictured right is the new Whittaker Rd and Willis Rd Roundabout constructed in Augusta Township.

Primary Road and Bridge Construction

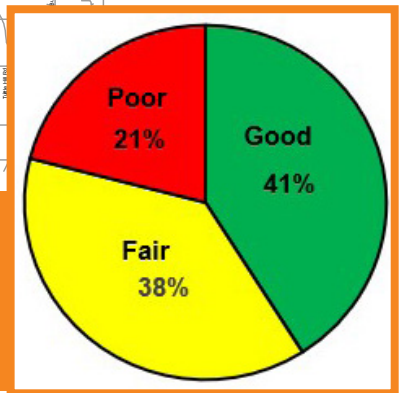
Completed 2024 Primary Road and Bridge Improvement Projects

- Mill/overlay
- Pulverize/overlay or reconstruct
- Seal coat
- Safety project
- Limestone/gravel overlay
- Bridge/culvert replacement
- Bridge/culvert maintenance
- Intersection project
- XX** Denotes a project funded with county millage dollars



Thanks to these investments, 79% of paved, primary roads under WCRC's jurisdiction are now in good or fair condition based on the 2024 PASER data. WCRC rates its paved, primary road system every year and uses this data to plan future projects.

Check out WCRC's 2024-2026 Transportation Asset Management Plan at wcroads.org which has a goal of 80% of primary roads in good or fair condition.



2024 Primary Road Construction Numbers

27 Miles of Seal Coat

Includes chip seal and fog seal projects. Seal coat helps to extend the life of a road in good/fair condition.

23 Miles of Resurfacing

Includes reconstruction, pulverize/overlay and mill/overlay projects.

3 Miles of Unpaved Road Improvements

Includes drainage improvements and the addition of limestone/gravel to the road surface.

7 Intersection Project

Includes a variety of treatments including new roundabouts, traffic signals, turn-lanes and/or overhead flashing beacons.

1 Bridge and 12 Culvert Projects

In 2024, WCRC replaced the Stony Creek Rd Bridge in Ypsilanti Township.



New traffic signal at N. Territorial Rd and Webster Church Rd (Webster Township)



Jackson Rd Concrete Rehabilitation (Scio Township)



Stony Creek Rd Bridge Replacement (Ypsilanti Township)



Miller Rd at Zeeb Rd Roundabout (Scio Township)

Partnering with Townships on Local Roads



Austin Rd Culvert Replacement (Bridgewater Township)



Macy Rd Limestone Resurfacing (Augusta Township)



N. Lake Rd Stone Haul (Dexter Township)

Local roads connect homes and businesses to the primary road system. They are a critically important part of the county's infrastructure yet there is little state funding available for their maintenance and improvement. Due to these funding challenges, financial partnerships with Washtenaw County's 20 townships are critical for the improvement of local roads across the county.

In 2024, WCRC allocated \$2 million of its MTF revenue into a Local Road Matching Program for townships to utilize. In addition, WCRC provides 50% of the cost for improvements to local road culverts and bridges as the WCRC budget allows. In 2024, townships collectively invested approximately \$9.9 million into improvements on local and some primary roads, taking advantage of the Local Road Matching Program, other funding opportunities and more.

Despite these efforts, many local roads are in poor condition and are in desperate need of investment. WCRC remains committed to working with townships to invest in these roads within the funding limitations faced by all.

Pictured is a
new limestone
resurface on Joy Rd in
Northfield Township.



Maintaining the Roads

No two days are the same when it comes to road maintenance. Throughout the year, often when the weather is at its worst, WCRC crews are out conducting a variety of road maintenance activities in every township of the county.

WCRC's Operations Department is tasked with conducting routine maintenance on public roads year-round, including grading unpaved roads, pothole patching, roadside tree trimming or removal, roadside brush mowing, etc. In the winter, this team becomes the snow/ice patrol. During a typical winter, WCRC will provide 50 - 75 days of winter maintenance services. Each winter presents a different set of challenges for WCRC. On average, WCRC spends approximately \$2.5 million a year dealing with ice and snow.

Road signs and traffic signals are maintained by WCRC's Traffic and Safety Team. These important safety features require year-round maintenance as well.

Managing third-party work within the public road right-of-way falls under WCRC's Permits Section.

Visit wcroads.org to learn more about WCRC's services.

2024 Maintenance Numbers

~ 4,120 Service Requests Closed

Residents can report road concerns via the WCRC Fix It App, by calling (734) 761-1500 or online at wcroads.org.

~ 5,800 Road Signs Serviced

Damaged or missing road signs were replaced or repaired throughout the year by WCRC's Sign Team.

~ 950 Right-of-Way and ~ 1,800 Transportation Permits Issued

WCRC's Permits Section is tasked with protecting the road and road right-of-way for the public through a detailed permitting process.

~ 1,300 After-Hour Call-Ins

WCRC crews respond 24/7 to reports of road hazards. These call-ins include snow/ice response, downed trees in the road, debris in the road, etc.

~ 670 Roadwork Notices & Project Emails Sent

Anyone can subscribe to receive email alerts from WCRC regarding planned road work and major road construction projects.



Storm Clean up



Sign Replacement



Grading unpaved road

WCRC Community Events in 2024



Dexter Light Parade (Dexter Cooperative Preschool)



Saline Holiday Parade (St Andrews Catholic School)



Big Truck Event (City of Milan)



Touch A Truck Event (Christian Montessori School)



Touch A Truck Event (Salem South Lyon Library)

If you see our tent in 2025, come say hi!

Connect with WCRC



Call (734) 761-1500

WCRC's Regular Hours:

Monday - Friday,
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

WCRC's Summer Hours:

Monday - Thursday,
6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Call to report road-related emergencies such as a tree across the road or a missing stop sign.



Visit wcroads.org Online

Submit non-emergency service requests, apply for permits, see upcoming road work, subscribe to road advisory emails, learn about road-related topics and much more!



Download the WCRC Fix It App

Available for Apple or Android devices. Submit non-emergency service requests and receive notifications from staff during the resolution process.



Attend a Board Meeting

The WCRC Board meets at 1 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Members of the public are welcome to attend board meetings in person at WCRC's Administration Building, 555 N. Zeeb Rd or virtually via Zoom.



Follow @WashtenawRoads on Facebook, Instagram & X (Formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn

For road updates, construction project updates, helpful tips and much more!



Chat with the Road Commission

Join WCRC leadership every Wednesday between noon - 12:30 p.m. for virtual office hours. RSVPs are encouraged but not required. Learn more at wcroads.org.



Join the Team!

WCRC is currently hiring full-time CDL drivers. Year-round and seasonal positions are available. Apply online at wcroads.org.