

# Starke County Highway Department Monthly Report – Febraury 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2020

## WINTER OPERATIONS

January was a relatively mild month compared to the last few Januarys. We have taken advantage of the weather to get caught up on our patching, fix problems at intersections/shoulders/small roadway blowouts by using some of the grindings we received last year. We have also hauled in more material.

	Snow/Ice events	miles plowed/treated	salt used	sand used
2018-9 November through January	30	62507	1436	6255
2019-20 November through January	17	35774	912	4156

## ROADWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT

Our ratings of the roadways using the PASER system will begin on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, the day after LTAP's paser training. The road list will be created after PASER is complete.

## US30/SR23 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT

The Superintendent and Marty Lucas met with INDOT recently. INDOT discussed the options for the intersection improvement. Safety was the primary concern. Do nothing, a stoplight, and a grade separation were all deemed unacceptable alternative. Although a decision has not been made yet, it looks like they will choose a type of RCI (reduced collision intersection). The Superintendent has a copy of the INDOT engineer's assessment and would be happy to explain the alternatives in his office with anyone who is interested.

## COMMUNITY CROSSINGS 2020 AND HOT MIX TRUCK ROUTE PLAN

The next round of applications for CCMG opened today. We will be submitting the two projects listed below for consideration. The first round applications begins now, the second begins in July. The maximum grant award for calendar year 2020 is \$1,000,000.00. Please refer to the truck route handout for the current state of our truck route plan

- 1) Range Road from SR10 to Toto Rd.
- 2) CR250N from US35 to Range Road
- 3) Bridge #158 new bridge

# **BRIDGE ASSET MANAGEMENT**

## **Bridge 158 (CR700E over the Jain Ditch, north of CR600N) re-bid –**

We attended the January 14<sup>th</sup> Starke County Drainage Board meeting to discuss the plans to replace the collapsed culvert with a bridge. All in attendance were generally favorable to replacing the culvert with a bridge. The soil reports do not support the use of a pipe or an aluminum box culvert.

	<b>PROS</b>	<b>CONS</b>
<b>CULVERT</b>	<p>COST (\$85,000)</p> <p>QUICK INSTALLATION</p>	<p>DOES NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE Hydraulic CAPACITY PROBLEM</p> <p>LIFE SPAN FROM APPROXIAMTELY 15 TO 30 YEARS</p> <p>DOES NOT ADDRESS THE POOR SOIL ISSUE</p> <p>DIFFICULT TO INSPECT FOR PLOBLEMS</p> <p>COULD LEAD TO THE SAME PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD WITH ALUMINUM BOX CULVERTS</p> <p>COULD OPEN UP COUNTY TO LAWSUITS</p>
<b>BRIDGE</b>	<p>SOLVES HYDRAULIC CAPACITY PROBLEM</p> <p>LIFE SPAN OF 75 TO 100 YEARS</p> <p>PILINGS WOULD SOLVE POOR SOIL ISSUE</p> <p>EASY TO INSPECT AND CLEAN</p> <p>FITS WITH OUR LONG RANGE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN</p> <p>PRTOCETS COUNTY FROM LAWSUITS</p>	<p>COST (\$342,00) BUT COULD BE OFFSET BY CCMG MONEY</p> <p>TWO MONTH INSTALLATION</p>

**Bridge 7, (CR1200E over the Yellow River, just north of 250S)** – The design for this bridge is being finalized. It will be sent out for bid and constructed in 2021. We are coordinating this project with the Surveyor’s office and their bank stabilization plans for the Yellow River.

**Bridge 137 (CR300E over the Yellow River, just south of CR50N)**

## **CONSTELLATION OF STARKE- STELLAR COMMUNITIES GRANT EFFORT**

The Stellar executive committee met last week to discuss the 2020 application effort. Next week we are meeting with OCRA to discuss our 2019 effort and the path going forward into 2020. After that meeting the executive committee will meet to discuss the \$333,000.00 we received as a runner-up. We will also discuss a reorganization of the committee and selection of a consultant.

Project Coordinator Position -In our application last year it was the Consturction Inspector. We discussed switching that to our asset manager position. We have a plan to combine the Office Manager and Asset Manager position and create an office clerk position to do payroll, answer phones, take complaints, do data entry, etc.. This would save the County \$5,000 in salary and benefits and also allow Mary Perren to be the project coordinator for Stellar. This year it would just mean being a member of the executive committee. When we win Stellar, Mary would coordinate the project management.

### **TRAINING**

**LTAP PASER/Asset Management Training;** Feb.20<sup>th</sup> in Knox at the Nancy Dembowski Community Center (10 participants) 32 of 80 spots are already reserved. We have invited the street superintendents, clerk treasurers, and council members from Knox, North Judson, and Hamlet

**LTAP Road and Bridge Plan Reading Road Scholar 11,** Mar.3 In Indianapolis at the Work Truck Show (5 participants)

**LTAP Basics of a Good Road Road Scholar #6;** Mar.9<sup>th</sup> at Purdue Road School (8 participants)

**LTAP Temporary Traffic Control Road Scholar class #7;** Apr.7<sup>th</sup> in South Bend (7 participants)

**LTAP Chainsaw Training;** May 14<sup>th</sup> in Knox at the Nancy Dembowski Center (20 participants)

### **Conferences**

**Stormwater Drainage Feb 6<sup>th</sup>;** Superintendent and Construction Inspection Supervisor

**Purdue Road School Mar.9-12;** Superintendent, Office Manager, and six for one day road scholar class on the 9<sup>th</sup>

**Work Truck Show Mar.4-6<sup>th</sup>** Garage Foreman, Senior Driver, and 4 road scholar class attendees

**APWA Snow Conference April 19-22<sup>nd</sup>** Superintendent/Office Manager and three one day attendees (two crew leaders will test for their winter maintenance supervisor certification and the garage foremand will test for his fleet management certification)

### **KIRPC**

Highway Planning assistance and other grant opportunities

