



VISION FOR A 21ST CENTURY ROAD AND BRIDGE NETWORK

In his 2012 State of the State address, Governor Snyder urged Michigan legislators to conduct hearings on bills that will create a system of roads and bridges for the 21st century; and urged consideration of an increased investment of \$1.4 billion annually. Although CRAM is excited to have the Governor out front advocating for increased road and bridge funding, the devil is always in the details.

What is the Governor's definition of a 21st Century road and bridge network? The introduction of 17 different pieces of legislation, along with comments made by Gov. Snyder in his Special Message on Transportation and Infrastructure late last year, has helped to paint a picture of the Administration's vision for commercial corridors.

The proposed Commercial Corridor Fund (CCF), after off-the-top deductions, would be allocated 55 percent to the State Trunkline Fund and 45 percent to local road agencies. Off-the-top deductions are proposed for reimbursing state agencies for the cost of collecting fees; continuing the 10 percent to the Comprehensive Transportation Fund (CTF); and \$40 million for the Transportation Economic Development Fund. Funds from the CCF would be allocated to road agencies based on each road's federal functional classification (highways and freeways, arterials, collectors, and local access roads) leaving many unanswered questions.

Although the percentage breakdown of funding to local road agencies is outlined in House Bill 5303, discrepancies in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) data makes it difficult to determine the long-term increase or decrease in funding to each agency; and thus each agency's ability to address the needs of their road and bridge network.

As proposed in House Bill 5303, the 45 percent of CCF funding to local road agencies would be divided as follows: 28 percent for principal arterials based on VMT data; 24 percent for minor arterials based on VMT data; 20 percent for major collectors based on VMT data; 12 percent for rural minor arterials based on centerline miles; 8 percent for rural minor collectors based on centerline miles; and 8 percent for local roads based on centerline miles.

Funding to local road agencies would be required to be expended for the "preservation, construction, acquisition, and extension of the road system, including the acquisition of necessary right-of-way for the system, work incidental to the system, and a roadside park or motorway appurtenant to the system." The funds must be used in a manner consistent with asset management; may be expended for the construction of local roads only to the extent the money is matched by other sources; and may not be expended for construction on roads closed to commercial vehicles, unless the road is classified as a local road.

The Snyder Administration's vision for a 21st Century road and bridge network obviously includes a significant shift in funding to urbanized areas! In recent years, the CRAM Board of Directors has approved a plan, that following any significant increase in fuel taxes or vehicle registration fees, increased funding would be made available to urban counties. The internal formula would be adjusted to provide increased reimbursement for a licensed professional engineer and the urban factor would increase from 10 to 13 percent. CRAM will continue working with legislative leadership to help them understand the merits of amending the current external and internal Act 51 formulas rather than establishing a new and cumbersome funding process.

2011 DIRECTORY CHANGES

ALCONA	Jesse J. Campbell, Managing Director, replaces Ronald Young
ALPENA	Ray Nickles, Commissioner, 610 Island View Dr., Alpena 49707, replaces Robert P. Foor
ANTRIM	Peter Stumm, Superintendent, ext. 12, replaces Chuck Johnson
ARENAC	New e-mail address is BDyer@arenaccrc.org
BAY	Richard S. Gromaski new phone number is 989.879.6282
BERRIEN	New e-mail address is info@bcroad.org
BRANCH	New web site is http://www.countyofbranch.com/dept.taf?dept_id=130
CALHOUN	Doug Wildt, Commissioner, replaces
CHEBOYGAN	Michael A. Roper, Managing Director, replaces Luke D. Houlton Lois Valley, Payroll Clerk, replaces Lisa Campeau
CLINTON	Alan Gove, Supt. of Operations, replaces Jack K. Powell
DICKINSON	Add Dave Brisson, Commissioner, N3385 Four Seasons Dr., Iron Mountain 49801 Add Jim Carey, Commissioner, N12854 Newberg Rd., Channing 49815
EATON	Delete Duanne Eldred, Commissioner
HILLSDALE	Delete Alec Legg
INGHAM	Delete James M. Benjamin Delete Tina M. Henry
LIVINGSTON	Terry Palmer, Accounting Supervisor, ext. 106, replaces Margaret Cosgray
MACOMB	Leo Ciavatta, Maintenance Superintendent, ext. 2304, replaces Robert Mykytiak
MASON	Mary Acker becomes Mary Samuels
MUSKEGON	New office e-mail is khulka@muskegoncountyroads.org
OAKLAND	Delete Linda Carr
OCEANA	New e-mail address is sgriffin@oceanaccrc.org
PRESQUE ISLE	Ronald Bischer new number is 989.733.8294
SANILAC	Add Terri Taylor, Finance Director, ext. 102
SCHOOLCRAFT	Address should be 332N East Rd., Manistique 49854
SHIAWASEE	Delete PO Box
ST. CLAIR	Delete James R. Warner, P.E.
WASHTENAW	Roy D. Townsend, P.E., Managing Director-CHE, 734.327.6662, replaces Steven Puuri Sheryl Siddall, 734.327.6687, named Director of Engineering Aaron Berjolz, Maintenance Superintendent, replaces Edward E. Reed
WEXFORD	Donald Patnode, Assistant Superintendent, replaces Jerry Hawkins

Name Badge Reminder

Name Badge Orders (prepaid @ \$15) must be received in the CRAM Office by February 13 for delivery at the Highway Conference. An order form has been sent to road commission offices with today's mailing.

CRAM Delete PO Box ~ New address is 417 Seymour Ave., Suite One, Lansing MI 48933

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Add:** Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan, 1827 N. Squirrel Rd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326, ph. 248.334.4971
- Change:** Non-Destructive Testing Group becomes TUV Rheinland Industrial Solutions
Price & Company becomes Hanes Geo Components
- Reinstate:** Abraham & Gaffney PC

HIGHWAY CONFERENCE TRADE SHOW

For the first time last year, to familiarize road commissions with the products and services offered by Associate Members, CRAM launched a trade show in conjunction with the Annual Highway Conference. This was one of the highest rated components of the 2011 Conference and has been expanded this year to accommodate 65 vendors. Please make participation in the Trade Show a priority. The President's Reception will be held in the Trade Show exhibit area from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.



SECOND ANNUAL



More information on sponsorship and trade show participation is available at:

http://www.micountyroads.org/PDF/2012_sponsor_memo.pdf

If you are attending the Legislative Reception, be sure to contact your legislators and invite them. The Reception will be held on March 7, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at the Causeway Bay Hotel and Convention Center in Lansing.

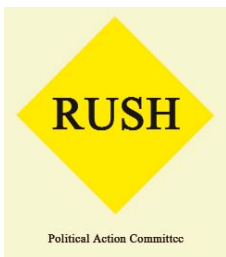
CRUMB RUBBER MODIFIED ASPHALT 101
February 27, 2012, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
The James B. Henry Center for Executive Development
A169 Large Amphitheater
(www.msuhenrycenter.org)
3535 Forest Road ~ Lansing, MI 48910-3831

This is a **MUST ATTEND** one-day workshop designed to provide the attendees with all of the information needed to begin the implementation of different types of Crumb Rubber Enhanced Asphalt Mixtures. The Workshop fee is \$75 for industry and \$40 for state/local/municipal government and academia. The fee includes lunch, parking and refreshments throughout the day at this state-of-the-art conference center. The Registration deadline is February 21, 2012.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for \$500 which includes space for a tabletop display in the room across from the main amphitheater where the Workshop is being held, and Workshop attendance by 2 people from the sponsoring company. Any additional persons from the sponsoring company wishing to attend will pay the \$75 fee.

A block of rooms is being held at the adjoining/attached Candlewood Suites at \$91/night. This Workshop is Sponsored by (Logos of paid sponsors will be added as they become available) and in coordination with the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan State University, The Rubber Pavements Association, The Rubber Manufacturers Association, Michigan Technological University and the Asphalt Pavement Association of Michigan.

For questions, please contact: Dr. M. Emin Kutay, P.E. (kutay@msu.edu) (517-353-9297). More information and on-line registration are available at: <https://www.egr.msu.edu/CRMA101/>



**WATCH YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE 2012
RUSH-PAC MEMBERSHIP MAILING**



RUSH-PAC is looking ahead to what promises to be an interesting election year. With a new transportation funding package on the legislative agenda, now more than ever RUSH-PAC needs your support.

RUSH-PAC endorses candidates for both the Primary and General election based on responses to the candidate survey and, where applicable, the candidate's voting record on transportation issues. RUSH-PAC is a non-partisan political action committee that works hard to secure legislative attention for the issues facing Michigan's county road agencies.

Annual membership starts at just \$50.00, with those monies being pooled to support candidates who understand the importance of good roads as a component of Michigan's economic success. A membership form can be downloaded from www.micountyroads.org. Contact Cindy Reisig at 517.482.1189, ext. 11 or by e-mail to creisig@localroads.net if you have questions.

Cash contributions over \$20.00 and corporate checks are prohibited by law.

HIGHWAY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

- 8:30 a.m. Canvassing Committee ~ Boardroom
- 8:30 a.m. Negotiating Committee ~ Imperial West
- 9:00 a.m. Accounting Manual Revision Subcommittee ~ University 2
- 9:00 a.m. CRAM RUSH-PAC Board of Trustees ~ Executive Training Room
- 9:30 a.m. Audit Committee ~ University 3 & 4
- 10:00 a.m. SAM Board ~ Imperial West
- 10:00 a.m. Finance and Human Resource Committee ~ University 2
- 11:30 a.m. CRAM Board/Past Presidents ~ Executive Training Room
- 12:00 Noon ASMRC Board ~ Imperial East
- 1:00 p.m. Pre-wet/Anti-Ice Subcommittee ~ University 1
- 2:00 p.m. Engineering Committee ~ University 1
- 4:00 p.m. Commissioners' Committee ~ University 2
- 4:30 p.m. Resolutions Committee ~ University 3 & 4

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. MCRCSIP/CRASIF Hospitality Room ~ Imperial West
- 10:00 a.m. Legal Issues Committee ~ Executive Training Room

Thursday, March 8, 2012

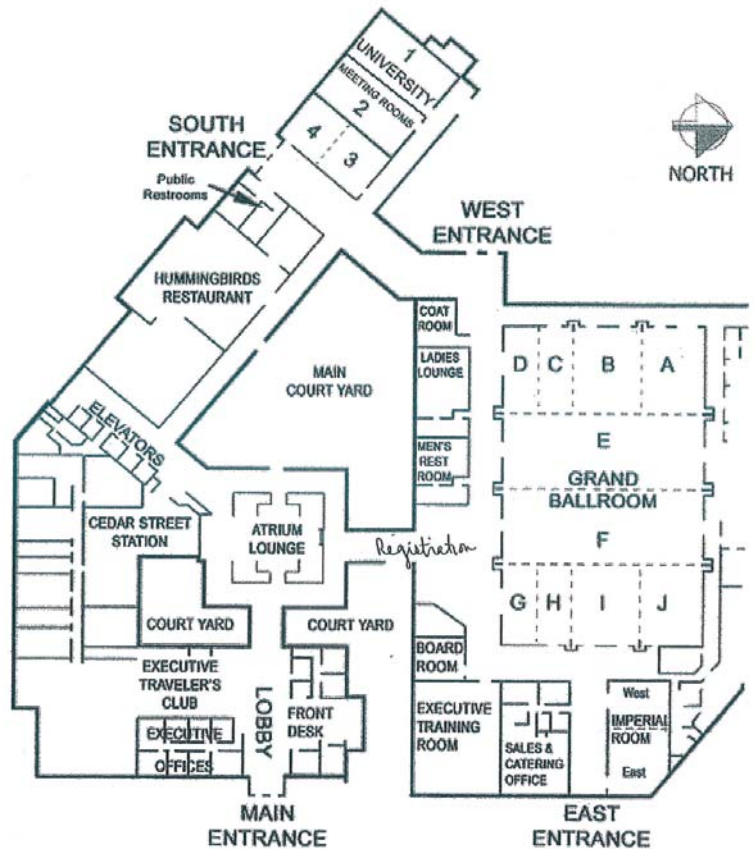
- 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Combined Services Exploration Committee Meeting ~ Imperial West

Please note that due to the expansion of the Trade Show, committee meetings will be held in a different part of the hotel than they have been in the past. (See inset map for room locations)

If you need more information on any of the above meetings, please contact the Committee Chair or the CRAM Office.

The deadline to register for the 2012 Highway Conference at discounted rates is February 24.

Please fax or mail your registration today!



2012 PASER TRAININGS

Each year the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) requires road owning agencies to collect and report PASER data on the federal aid eligible road network during their annual data collection event. Agency staff are required to attend PASER training according to the TAMC training policy.

Onsite sessions: *All sessions are from 8:00AM - 12:00PM. Registration starts at 7:30AM.
Certification Testing is from 1:00PM - 3:00PM for eligible candidates*

February 28	West Branch - Quality Inn
February 29	Saginaw - Horizon's Conference Center
March 1	Grand Rapids - Holiday Inn Downtown
March 27	Kalamazoo - Kalamazoo CRC
March 28	Lansing - LCC-West Campus-M-TEC
March 29	Dearborn - Henry Ford Community College-M-TEC
April 17	Gaylord - Knights of Columbus Hall
April 18	Escanaba - Delta CRC
April 19	Ishpeming - Country Village Banquet & Conference Center

Webinar sessions:

February 21	9:00AM - 11:30AM
February 23	1:00PM - 3:30PM
March 14	9:00AM - 11:30AM
April 12	1:00PM - 3:30PM

Rater Certification:

TAMC has instituted a testing and certification program for PASER data collectors who attended TAMC PASER training and collected PASER data for multiple years. The certification allows experienced raters to opt out of training in future years. To become certified, qualified raters must pass an exam which will be administered after the on-site PASER training sessions. Raters seeking certification must attend an on-site PASER training during 2012. Raters who are eligible for the certification exam will receive a notification e-mail.

All eligible raters wishing to take the PASER certification test MUST pre-register at least two weeks in advance of their testing date. If you have not received notification two weeks prior to the start of PASER training and you believe you meet the certification criteria please contact the Center for Technology and Training (CTT) at 906-487-2102 or ctt@mtu.edu.

Raters who are eligible to take the certification test are not required to attend the PASER web based training on distress identification. However, it may be helpful as a refresher as this material will be included on the certification test.

"Always try to do something for the other fellow and you will be agreeably surprised how things come your way — how many pleasing things are done for you."

~ Claude M. Bristol

SEASONAL WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS PAGE

CRAM will be maintaining a Seasonal Weight Restrictions page again this year. Please remember to keep the CRAM Office posted with respect to the status of weight restrictions in your county. Also, please make sure that the list of restricted roads for your county is up-to-date. Status and road list updates should be sent to Tom at: teldred@localroads.net or by fax to 517.482.1253.

Each Year 85,000 visitors look at the Seasonal Weight Restrictions page more than 100,000 times between February and March.

Visit www.micountyroads.org/weight.php for more information.

CRASIF/MCRCSIP SAFETY SEMINARS

The County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund (CRASIF) and Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool (MCRCSIP) will be sponsoring seven safety seminars throughout the state. The training is for commissioners, managers, supervisory personnel, foremen and all employees. Please support a safer workplace by sending people to one of these valuable training sessions. Look for registration forms and more information in the weeks ahead. The dates are:

SAFETY SEMINARS 2012 "Hitting The Mark"

April 3 Big Rapids
B.R. Dept. of Public Safety

April 5 Grayling
Ramada Inn

April 12 Kalamazoo
Kalamazoo CRC

April 10 Frankenmuth
Bavarian Inn

April 24 Mackinaw City
Audie's Inn

April 25 Escanaba
Delta CRC

April 26 Baraga
Lakeside Inn Best Western



Please consider switching to electronic mailings. If you would like to opt into e-mail only, please send an e-mail indicating this choice, your name, e-mail address and county to teldred@localroads.net.



THE ROAD AHEAD



February

- 6 Southeastern Council
Calhoun CRC, Marshall
- 7 Straits Area Council
Audie's Restaurant, Mackinaw City
- 9-10 UPRBA - Winter Meeting
Holiday Inn of Marquette
- 13 Southwestern Council
Brann's Restaurant, Wyoming
- 14-16 County Engineers' Workshop
Comfort Inn, Mt. Pleasant
- 16 General Policy Committee Meeting
Super 8 Hotel, Mt. Pleasant
- 17 Paul Bunyan Council
McGuire's Resort, Cadillac
- 20 CRAM Office closed - Presidents' Day

March

- 6-8 CRAM Highway Conference
Causeway Bay Hotel and Conv. Ctr
Lansing

To post job openings or to include other items in CRAM News, contact Tom Eldred at the CRAM Office **BY Wednesday 2-22-12** to be included in the 3-2-12 edition. Openings/information should be sent electronically to: teldred@localroads.net

April

- 1-5 NACE 2012
Hilton Lexington, Lexington, Kentucky
- 15-17 Commissioners' Seminar
Holiday Inn -West Bay - Traverse City

May

- 3 Great Lakes Council
Lakeside Inn, Baraga
- 8-10 Finance and Human Resources Bus. Sem.
Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City

June

- 13-14 UPRBA Summer Meeting
Kewadin Casino, Sault Ste. Marie
- 18-20 ASMRC Conference
Little River Casino, Manistee

September

- 4-5 CRASIF Annual Meeting
Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville
- 5-7 NMARC -- **CORRECTED DATES**
Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville

October

- 3-5 Superintendents' Seminar
Little River Casino & Conference Center,
Manistee

**PLEASE UPDATE YOUR RECORDS TO REFLECT THE CLOSURE OF OUR
P.O. BOX. OUR NEW ADDRESS IS:**

**COUNTY ROAD ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN
417 SEYMOUR AVE., SUITE ONE ~ LANSING MI 48933**