

Memorandum

To: Board of Commissioners
From: Eric W. Shanley, P.E., Director of Highways
Date: December 18, 2017
Re: 2017 Operations Update

Major contract road work in 2017 on Perimeter, Ohio Match, Caroline and N. Old Hwy 95 was completed at a cost of approximately \$2,018,000. Work was performed by Interstate Concrete and Asphalt and completed approximately \$26,000 under the bid price. Work included more than 23,000 tons of asphalt on over six (6) miles of road.

Other contract work in 2017 included slide repairs on Cape Horn Road. Work performed by Big Sky Construction included a gabion rock retaining wall at the cost of approximately \$123,000.

2017 road work also included 25-miles of chip sealing and 2.5 miles of double shot bituminous surface treatments (BST) to gravel roads. The Districts work this year reduced our gravel road miles to 13-miles, down from 33-miles in 2011 and 40-miles in 2006.

Based on current pavement assessments and 2017 completed road work, the District's Average Network Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is at 86/100, with over 90% of the roads considered in Good or Very Good Condition. This year's Pavement Condition Rating is in comparison to our PCI in 2011 that was of 66/100. Refer to the Districts 2017 State of Roads Report for additional information.

Total centerline road miles in 2017 is now 280-miles vs. 267-miles in 2011 and 255-miles in 2006. Road miles within the District are expected to grow with several large subdivisions as well as, District and State projects that will bring new road miles and bridges into the Districts network.

Other significant improvements for safety include the Ramsey/Union Pacific RR X-ing and Ramsey/BNSF Grade Separation Project. This in addition to guardrail improvements around the East Hayden Lake Road and systemic intersection improvements throughout the District, installing flashing stop sign beacons. Crossing Improvements at Ramsey UPRR are now operational and the District has started design for the Ramsey/BNSF Grade Separation Project. Safety Improvements on the East Hayden Lake Road and systemic intersection improvements are anticipated for 2018.

District staff is now in the design process of our 2018 scheduled road projects. 2018 projects include approximately \$2.4 million in contract work and \$0.5 million in chip sealing. The District with its own forces will also be providing Bituminous Surface Treatments to Nettleton Gulch, Sturgeon, Merriweather and Salee Creek Roads, as well as chip sealing approximately 25-miles.

The District is a 30% partner on the Government Way Reconstruction Project from Hanley to Prairie scheduled for the spring of 2018. Other partners on the road project include the City of Coeur d'Alene (50%) and the City of Hayden (20%). As part of the road project the City of Dalton Gardens will be installing sewer within portions of the Road Project. Apollo Contracting will be the contractor. Staff will be involved with construction meetings and management of the Districts 30% interest of the \$4.5 million construction project.

For the winter snow season, the District began preparing winter equipment in early October, starting with winterizing specialty equipment, installing de-icer systems, sanders and snow wings. The District was operationally ready for winter maintenance activities prior to the end of October and began minor de-icing work and snow plowing in November. The Districts equipment for this season consists of 8-plow trucks, 6-truck sanders, 5-medium duty de-icer trucks with plows and 3- graders. Each of our plow trucks are equipped with wings, which have successfully eliminated having to make a double pass on roads to provide a sufficient width travel way. With recent

equipment acquisition, the Director indicated that he expects to offer in 2018 for the boards consideration to surplus, 3-dump trucks. The District has received interest from the Cities of Hayden Lake and Spirit Lake regarding acquisition of these dump trucks, while the City of Athol is considering their interest.

The District is experiencing a significant increase in permitting, subdivision platting and engineering reviews. This is in addition to construction oversight of new subdivision roads and the associated building permits from new home construction. The District is also experiencing an increase in zone change requests, special notice permits, conditional use permits, variances, encroachments, commercial approaches, City annexation requests for comment and subdivision reviews (i.e. commercial development of the Kerr Gas Station on Prairie Ave, multiple storage facilities such as the one Old Hwy 95, marina development in Bayview, to major subdivisions on Chilco, Diagonal, Ramsey and Lancaster Road, to several minor subdivisions throughout the District).

Twelve (12) major subdivisions have come through the District this year for preliminary review and comment and/or construction oversight, this in addition to over 20 minor subdivisions. In comparison to the subdivisions in 2017, in 2012 the District provided review, comment and oversight of 4-major and 9- minor subdivisions. Not including utility or encroachment permits, District Staff has received more than 370 building permit approach applications for comment and inspection in 2017. This is a 230% increase since we began tracking the number of approach permits submitted annually in 2013. In 2013 we received 160 permits.

In recognition for the increase in the workload, staffing levels to accomplish that work have remained constant or have even decreased with retirements of the former road supervisor, assistant road supervisor and with a significant reduction in outside consulting services. Contributing factors in our ability to do more with less, are well qualified personnel and efficiencies in managing the Districts work.