
Lanark County 2010 construction season well underway

The County of Lanark is improving 57 kilometres of roads this season, which translates into 10 per cent of its entire network.

Of this year's \$14 million public works budget, \$6 million is allocated to road and bridge construction, including 38 km of pavement preservation, 19 km of road rehabilitation and one bridge rehabilitation.

"The county's public works department oversees construction, operation, repair and maintenance of 565 kilometres of roads along with 77 bridge and culvert structures," says Steve Allan, county public works director. "We are continually working to maintain and improve our network with a view to enhancing public safety."

For all of the road construction projects listed below, traffic may be reduced to one lane from time to time. "We remind motorists to obey all signs and traffic control personnel," Mr. Allan said. "This is not only for safety of drivers, but also for the construction workers. We regret any inconvenience or disruption to traffic that may be caused."

Warden John Fenik (Perth Mayor) says improving the county's road network is a high priority for council. "The public works department has made great efforts to prolong the life of pavement in the county's extensive network in a cost-effective and efficient manner. We want to provide the best experience possible for motorists who live here or who are visiting our county."

Details of projects taking place in the 2010 season include:

County Road 29: Microsurfacing, which is a pavement preservation method that addresses rutting and cracking and is employed to delay the need for major rehabilitation, is taking place on 14.8 km of this road between Almonte and Pakenham. The project is currently underway and picks up where it left off last year. The work is expected to be completed in June/July.

County Road 43: This microsurfacing job on 14.3 km between Smiths Falls and Merrickville is currently underway and slated for completion in July.

County Road 16: Another pavement preservation project for the county is a single surface treatment (renewing the existing surface) on 8.8 km of Cty. Rd. 16/South Lavant Road from Poland to Lavant Station in Lanark Highlands. This work is scheduled for August. In addition, county council has approved a project in principle to make spot improvements to a 5-km gravel section of this road over the next three to five years. This year a 1-km section at Robertson Lake is scheduled for the work, which involves widening the road slightly, improving drainage and then surface treating it.

County Road 12: This large, complex rehabilitation project is currently underway and picks up from work completed last year. It runs for 4.6 km from the 7th Concession to Cty. Rd. 15. Currently the equipment rental phase, as well as culvert and ditching work, is completed; cold-in-place recycling is planned for August and paving is slated for September. The road is still open for traffic, but lane reductions will occur when construction resumes.

County Road 8/Watson's Corners Road: This project spans 3 km westward from Cty. Rd. 511 and will begin in July. It involves replacing several culverts, which means the road will be closed for two days between Cty. Rd. 511 and the Dobbie Road during the week of July 8. Dobbie Road will be used as a detour. A public notice will be published in early July.

County Road 14: The last phase of improvements to this road will occur on 1 km between Merkley Road/Day's Corners and the boundary with Leeds and Grenville.

County Road 9: A 4-km section of road near Tatlock has now been paved as part of an agreement between the county and Omya Canada. The \$470,000 job was funded by Omya. The 2005 agreement allowed Omya to quarry beneath the existing county road in exchange for a new one.

Clydesville Bridge: This major rehabilitation includes bridge deck replacement, safety barriers and approach guide rails. It is a Building Canada Fund project, meaning the county pays one-third of the costs and the provincial and federal governments pick up the remainder. Good weather conditions allowed the work to start in March, and Mississippi Valley Conservation allowed work to continue throughout the fish-spawning period as the contractor did not work in the water at that time. The north lane is

completed and the south lane is expected to be finished at the end of July.

Glen Isle Bridge: Pre-engineering for this bridge replacement project is now in the design stage. A public meeting has been held. If the project is approved for next year, the bridge will be closed for about three months and an on-site detour built, which would consist of a causeway and culverts across the Mississippi River.

Cooperative Projects: The county is currently working in cooperation with local municipalities on major construction projects, including Perth's Wilson Street reconstruction, which involves intersections with county roads at North Street and Sunset Boulevard. In Mississippi Mills, the first phase of the construction of the White Tail Ridge subdivision involves utilities running on the Cty. Rd. 17 road allowance. Also in Mississippi Mills, the new sewer force main will extend along the road allowance on Cty. Rd. 16 to the sewage lagoon, crossing underneath Cty. Rds. 29 and 16.

Mr. Allan noted contracts were awarded in a different manner this year. "Bids were accepted for services as opposed to specific site jobs, so we tendered for such things as equipment rental, micro-surfacing, paving and surface treatment. This method involves more project management at our end, but decreases costs for ratepayers as types of work are consolidated into single, large tenders."

Tenders were awarded to Dalcon Enterprises (\$897,000) for the Clydesville Bridge rehabilitation; Miller Paving Ltd. (\$997,000) for micro-surfacing on Cty. Rds. 29 and 43; Smiths Construction Company (\$1.3 million) for paving on Cty. Rds. 8, 12 and 16; Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited (\$1.1 million) for equipment rental for Cty. Rds. 8, 12, 14 and 16; and Smiths Construction Company (\$494,000) for surface treatment on Cty. Rds. 8, 14 and 16.

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