Local Roads Matter ...

- To Michigan families.
- To school buses and education.
- To emergency response times.
- To commerce, jobs growth.
- To positive tourist experiences.

And local roads are at risk.
Why local roads matter.

• For > 85 percent of us a local road takes us home.

• Freeways are important, but they don’t reach your driveway!
Why local roads matter.

• Buses driving around closed or weight-restricted roads and bridges increase time kids are on buses.

• Increased bus expenses take money out of the classroom.
Why local roads matter.

• Fewer snow plow operators and older equipment lengthen the time to make roads safe in winter.

More snow days?
Why local roads matter.

• Closed or weight restricted bridges increase response times for police, fire and emergency workers.

Will they arrive in time?
Why local roads matter.

- Longer travel time for ambulances due to slower speeds, detours.

*Will they achieve the “golden hour” for best patient care?*
Why local roads matter.

- Good roads create, attract jobs and say Michigan is open for business.

*Do bad roads convey the image of a struggling state?*
Why local roads matter.

• Local roads get goods to market – from farms, forests and factories.

• And they get just-in-time supplies to manufacturers.

*Corporate real estate execs rated transportation 2nd among their top 10 considerations for business expansion and site selection.*

– Site Selection Magazine, 2008
Why local roads matter.

• Quite simply: You can’t visit the pretty places from an interstate.

• Local roads connect tourists – and the rest of us – with Pure Michigan places.

We can get tourists here – but will they want to come back?
Why local roads matter.

- Michigan is the Midwest’s “fruit belt.”
- Local roads, bridges move perishable fruit and vegetables – across the state, around the world.

*Is it bruising before it gets to market?*
Why local roads matter.

- Many local bridges and culverts are **too narrow** to accommodate the size, weight of modern farm equipment.

Are we *increasing the cost of getting our food to market*?
What’s wrong with our local roads?

Shockingly, ...

... over 50% of local roads are rated in poor shape.*

... another 31% are rated in fair condition.*

A worrisome ...

1 in 8 Michigan bridges are rated as needing attention.

* Ratings come from the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council. www.michigan.gov/tamc
What’s wrong with our local roads?

- Roads are paid for by federal, state and sometimes local taxes.
- State funds come from gas tax and vehicle registration fees.
What’s wrong with our local roads?

Gas tax revenues are down over last 17 years due to less driving (recession, high gas prices) and more fuel-efficient vehicles.
What’s wrong with our local roads?

• Every year $1 billion we pay at the pump doesn’t go to roads.

• Since 1997, Michigan roads have been shortchanged $17 billion. It shows.
What’s wrong with our local roads?

Remember 1997?

- Nintendo 64 came out.
- So did Spice Girls.
- Tiger Woods won his first Masters.
- Princess Diana died.
- Dolly the sheep was cloned.
- Bird flu was scary.
- Gas was $1.22/gal.
- And THAT was last time Michigan increased our gas tax.

- It is not tied to inflation.
What’s wrong with our local roads?

• Consequently, Michigan ranks dead last among 50 states in per capita funding for roads.*

• Michigan has been in the bottom 8 states for road funding for 50 years. We’re can’t save our way out of this problem!

* Source: US Census Bureau.
What’s wrong with our local roads?

• Every $1 repair not made on a “fair” road today becomes $6 to $14 repair when it’s a “poor” road, in a few years.

• Bad roads cost motorists in Lansing, Grand Rapids and Detroit $300-$500/year in vehicle repairs and costs.*

• Michigan drivers pay about $365/year in gas tax and vehicle registration for the privilege of using our local roads.

The problem didn’t happen overnight, and won’t be fixed overnight. It’s a decade-long vision that should begin now! And it requires money.

- A series of reports since 2008 peg the fixes at $2-$2.5 billion/year in additional funds.

- To transition to intelligent roads, more lanes and more safety features, the figure could be twice that.

- But let’s start with simple.

- A 2011 statewide survey by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association, said 69% of residents wanted the Legislature to make fixing roads, bridges a “High Priority.”
The fix: Local Roads Matter

• Michigan’s economy relies on a vital network of roads and bridges.

• Our families, communities and workplaces need Michigan’s 122,000 miles of roads in good repair.

• Fixing local roads requires a sustainable, reliable funding source.

... Because your local roads matter!
What you can do for local roads.

Join the campaign online! Tell our elected leaders you support good quality Michigan roads.

• www.milocalroads.com
• Twitter: twitter.com/MiLocalRoads
• Facebook: www.facebook.com/milocalroadsmatter
• Youtube: www.youtube.com/user/milocalroads