

# INGHAM COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

AUSTIN E. CAVANAUGH ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
301 Bush Street, P.O. Box 38, Mason MI 48854-0038

Joseph A. Guenther, Chair  
Shirley M. Rodgers, Vice Chair  
Thomas M. Mitchell, Member  
James Dravenstatt-Mocerri, Member  
Norman L. Gear, Member

William M. Conklin, P.E.  
Managing Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact the Road Commission:

November 23, 2009  
(517) 676-9722

### Columbia Road Bridge Restoration

The Ingham County Road Commission has announced that upon completion of a critical repair to the Columbia Road Bridge, the reduced maximum weight allowed on the bridge has now **been increased from 14Tons / 17 Tons / 18 Tons to 42 Tons / 54 Tons / 63 Tons**, for single, double, and triple unit trucks respectively.

The normal legal maximum weight on a bridge is 42 Tons / 77 Tons / 77 Tons. Due to structural deterioration, the Columbia Road bridge weight limit has been reduced in the past. During the last regularly scheduled inspection, further deterioration was found which reduced the bridge maximum legal weight to 14 Tons / 17 Tons / 18 Tons.

For the past few months the Road Commission has made significant repairs to improve and preserve the Columbia Road Bridge over the Grand River, located between two offset legs of Waverly Road in Aurelius Township. The Road Commission hired Great Lakes Engineering Group, LLC to perform its regular inspection of bridges. Great Lake's Bridge Inspector, Amy L. Trahey, P.E., evaluated the repair and recommended that the current load posting be increased. "Based upon the bolted steel repairs that were recently constructed and observed during our recent safety inspection, the Road Commission did an outstanding job, not only putting diligent thought into the repair strategy, but in the actual construction also. The agency built capacity back into the bridge, allowing it to remain in service for its motorists," she stated.

The Road Commission will continue to maintain the Columbia Road Bridge until it receives the necessary federal and state Local Bridge Program (LBP) funds to replace the bridge. The Road Commission has applied for LBP funding for this bridge for the last several years, but has not received funding due to statewide bridge replacement needs far outweighing available funds. The Road Commission does not have sufficient budget to replace bridges without LBP funding.

The estimated cost to replace the Columbia Road bridge over the Grand River is \$1 .3 million. It was built in 1950 and has outlived the normal 40 to 50 year lifespan of a typical bridge.

For questions, feel free to contact the Road Commission office.

Telephone: (517) 676-9722 1-800-968-9733 Fax: (517) 676-2085 TDD: (517) 676-7798

E-Mail: [roads@inghamcrc.org](mailto:roads@inghamcrc.org) Web Site: <http://www.inghamcrc.org>

An Equal Opportunity Employer