

WAYNE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Wayne County Engineer
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Each year, the constituents of Wayne County entrust the Wayne County Engineer in coordination with the Wayne County Commissioners to maintain 499 miles of county infrastructure including 485 bridges. This annual report summarizes the efforts of the Engineer, Highway Maintenance and Tax Map departments for 2023.

In 2023 the County Engineer's Office had expenditures totaling \$8,212,405.63. The 2023 Wayne County road and bridge improvements are summarized as follows:

- Replaced / Rehabilitated 6 bridges and repaired 14 bridges;
- Replaced 6 large culverts and 35 small culverts;
- Road improvements on 118.48 miles of roadway;
- Striped 195 miles of centerline and 188 miles of edge line

For additional information about the Wayne County Engineer's 2023 activities and to view our proposed 2024 work plan, please visit our website:

www.wayne-county-engineer.com.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to my staff for compiling this report and to the Board of Wayne County Commissioners for their cooperation in achieving our goals.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott A. Miller".

Scott A. Miller, P.E., P.S.
Wayne County Engineer

PERSONNEL

SCOTT A. MILLER, P.E., P.S.
WAYNE COUNTY ENGINEER

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Michelle Hall, Office Manager
Leighanna Cawrse, Administrative Assistant

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Andrew Jones, Assistant County Engineer
Eric Liew, P.E., P.S., Bridge Engineer
Ryan Marthey, P.E., Drainage/Roadway Engineer
Brock Yoder, Permit & Traffic Safety Supervisor
Shania Reed, Engineering Technician
Craig Wuthrich, Engineering Technician
Courtney VanDyne, Permit Coordinator – Part Time

TAX MAP OFFICE

Stacy Peppard, Tax Map Supervisor
Lisa Burns, Tax Map Specialist
Courtney VanDyne, Tax Map Specialist – Part Time

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Pat Miller, Bridge Superintendent
Dave Corbett, Fleet and Facility Manager
TJ Shamp, Highway Superintendent
Dean Whitman, Assistant Highway Superintendent

Tristin Baker ~ John Baldner ~ Sarah Decker (5/6/24) ~ John Eubanks ~ Bob Ewing ~ Rick Fletcher ~ Brad Gross
Rodney Hartzler ~ Lukus Hawk ~ Jon Hudson ~ Mike Hyatt ~ Corey Keplar ~ Nate Klepper ~ Jeremy Leckrone
Aaron Mackey ~ Kyle McAfee ~ Kevin Miller ~ Jr. Mowrer ~ Erik Ogden ~ Don Phillips ~ Jakob Robinson
Jesse Sax (5/6/24) ~ Cooper Smith ~ Matt Swartz ~ Trent Swinehart ~ Dustin Taylor ~ Cody Truman

Sign Shop ~ Jeff Metcalf, Dave Richard

Mechanic (Shop) ~ Joe Burns, Ryan Sowers (4/15/24)

Summer Help ~ Drew Becker, Trevor Larson, Brooke Loving, Sarah Miller, Jonathan Varner

Retired/Resigned:

Shawn Franks – Resigned – 2/16/2024

DUTIES OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER

The Engineer has the responsibility of performing for the County all duties authorized or declared by law to be done by a civil engineer or surveyor, and accordingly must hold registration certificates of the State of Ohio as both Professional Engineer and Professional Surveyor.

The Engineer, in cooperation with the County Commissioners, is responsible for all maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, reconstruction, and construction of roads and bridges on the county highway system; 498.206 miles.

The Engineer serves as an advisor to the Township Trustees for the maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, and reconstruction of their highways. The bridges on the township highway system are the full responsibility of the County.

The Engineer is also responsible for many bridges within municipalities. These bridges are located on streets which are extensions of county or township roads.

Also, the Engineer must maintain a perpetual inventory of all bridges on the county and township highway system, including an annual inspection and evaluation of the condition and load carrying capacity of each bridge.

The Engineer is the Tax Map Draftsman for the County and at the discretion of the County Commissioners, he may also serve as the Acting Sanitary Engineer.

2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2023 INCOME		
\$ 4,967,539.80	License Fees & Permissive Tax	54.34%
\$ 3,827,153.05	Gasoline Tax	41.87%
\$ 346,806.43	Other (fines/fees/misc)	3.79%
\$ 9,141,499.28		100.00%
2023 EXPENDITURES		
\$ 3,630,149.08	Labor & Fringes	44.20%
\$ 2,757,057.28	Road Materials/Contracts	33.57%
\$ 736,979.85	Bridge Materials/Contracts	8.97%
\$ 534,948.49	Vehicle - Repair - Fuel	6.51%
\$ 32,696.25	Issue II Projects/Loans	0.40%
\$ 171,325.18	Equipment	2.09%
\$ 349,249.50	Building Supplies and Contracts	4.25%
\$ 8,212,405.63		100.00%

BRIDGES

The Wayne County Engineer is responsible for inspection, maintenance, and construction of 485 bridges on county and township roads, and extensions of those roads through municipalities.

INSPECTION: Annual inspections for 485 bridges are performed in accordance with the latest Ohio Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Manual. Some bridges are inspected and monitored more frequently because of known deficiencies.

LOAD RATINGS: To be in compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires ratings on all structures with a span greater than 20'. The load rating is performed for the safety of the traveling public. The carrying-capacity of all bridges in the State of Ohio are rated using a standard set of vehicles, called "Ohio Legal Loads". In addition to the current Ohio rating practice of using Ohio legal trucks, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has implemented a plan of action in response to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement to incorporate the Specialized Hauling Vehicles (SHV) and Emergency Vehicles (EV) as per AASHTO's "Manual for Bridge Evaluation, Second Edition" into all new load rating analyses.

Load ratings, performed on Wayne County bridges in 2023, resulted in 3 bridges being submitted to ODOT with new or updated load limits. In addition, the posted load limits were removed on six (6) bridges in 2023. Wayne County currently has 59 load limit bridges.

2023 BRIDGE PROJECTS:

Replaced or Rehabilitated Bridges:

EAS-TR145-3.19, Swinehart Road, \$52,830.22
EAS-TR179-3.46, Kansas Road, \$38,551.48
CHI-TR172-3.45, Galehouse Road, \$33,866.97
BAU-CR242-4.18, Burton City Road, \$98,407.19
FRA-TR3-1.76, McFadden Road, \$106,417.66
MIL-TR43-0.59, Ziegler Road, \$113,334.63

TOTAL: \$443,408.15

Fourteen (14) other bridge structures received repairs totaling **\$62,922.76**.

CULVERTS

The Wayne County Engineer is responsible for inspection, maintenance, and construction of 317 large culverts on county roads. Large culverts are defined as culverts having a span or rise greater than or equal to 48” and less than 120” (10’). Structures with a span greater than/equal to 120” (10’) are considered bridges.

INSPECTION: Inspections of large culverts are performed on a five (5) year rotation in accordance with the latest Ohio Department of Transportation Culvert Management Manual. Some culverts are inspected and monitored more frequently because of known deficiencies.

At the request of the Township Trustees; the Wayne County Engineer’s Office will inspect the large culverts on township roads. There are approximately 244 large culverts on township roads.

CONSTRUCTION: Six (6) Large Culverts were replaced or extended by county forces in 2023:

Thirty-Five (35) small culverts (less than 48”) were replaced/repared by county forces; the county maintains 2,183 small culverts.

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

County Force Account for 2023 were as follows:

- Chip and Seal – 59.36 miles - \$855,053.28
- Drag Patched – 57.94 miles - \$625,041.36
- Scratch Pave – 1.18 miles - \$82,417.04

County Forces / Feikert Sand and Gravel:

- Intersection Safety Project – Moreland Rd. and Fredericksburg Rd. - \$41,000

Contract Projects for 2023 were as follows:

- Fredericksburg Road (B-E) - Paving – 4.77 miles - \$755,848.23 – Melway Paving – OPWC
- Guardrail Spraying and ROW Spraying – \$76,213.40 – DCS DeAngelo
- Mowing (three rounds) ~ \$79,875, Quick Mow Inc.

SNOW & ICE: County crews spent 3,039.50 hours salting/plowing county roads during the 2023/2024 snow season on 25 individual snow events.

Labor:	\$ 84,628.06
Equipment:	\$100,276.00
Material:	<u>\$178,042.04</u> (3,069 Tons Salt, 0 Gal.Brine, 325 Tons Salt/Grit)
Total:	\$388,661.22

Salt:	2023/2024	\$53.34 per ton
	2022/2023	\$51.14 per ton
	2021/2022	\$45.28 per ton
	2020/2021	\$57.29 per ton
	2019/2020	\$89.51 per ton

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

2022 Chevy Equinox	\$27,041.00
2023 Mack Dual Axle Dump Truck	\$276,946.00

TRAFFIC CONTROL

The primary responsibility of our traffic control staff is the inspection and maintenance of 8,618 road signs, which includes over 1,300 road name signs and narrow/load limit signs at certain bridges on township roads. The sign shop updated or installed 685 signs in 2023 and cleaned/repaired another 318. To increase visibility 350 yellow post reflectors were added on warning signs and 190 red post reflectors were added on stop signs.

The Traffic Control staff performs centerline, edge line, railroad crossing symbols and stop bar painting on county roads. Yellow centerline stripes were added to 195 miles of county roads. They also painted 188 miles of white edge lines, 56 railroad crossing symbols and 140 stop bars at intersections.

PERMITS

Our office oversees work within the county right-of-way by public utilities and property owners as well as overweight and oversize vehicles using the roads. This ensures that all utility work, including relocation of overhead and buried electric, phone, cable, water and gas lines along and under the road, does not interfere with the safety and operation of the county roads. Also, any work that is done by a resident to the front of their property (inside the road right-of-way), including construction of new driveways, installation of drainage pipes, re-grading ditches or installing obstructions that would otherwise affect the operation or safety of the road must be reviewed by the permit department. Special Haul Permits are for vehicles that are oversize or overweight according to the limits set by Ohio Revised Code 5577.

Permits Issued 2023:	Drive Pipes/Ditch Enclosure	72
	Utility	107
	Ditch Enclosure	21
	Special Haul	11
	Access Management	26
	Total =	237

SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Statton Rd. & Jeffrey Rd., Congress Twp., Improved intersection visibility by removing trees and regrading ditch bank.

Fredericksburg Rd. & Moreland Rd., Franklin Twp., Lowered intersection and Fredericksburg Rd. North of intersection for better visibility.

SPEED ZONE STUDIES

Jericho Rd., 45 MPH, Emerson Rd. to Zuercher Rd.
Wayne Twp., Flickinger Hill Rd., 50 MPH No Change
Mt. Hope Rd., 45 MPH, Holmes County to Harrison Rd.

INTERSECTION SAFETY STUDIES

Zuercher Rd. & Hackett Rd., Cross Traffic Does Not Stop Signs Installed

TAX MAP DEPARTMENT

The Primary function of the Tax Map Department is to process all deeds and record the parcel transfers on the appropriate map(s). Some of the instruments that the Department is required to review and approve are as follows: warranty deeds, quit claim deeds, executor's deeds, certificate of transfers, deeds of trustees, transfer on death affidavits, land contracts, sheriff's deeds, etc.

The Tax Map Department also retains and maintains historical tax maps, property surveys, railroad and highway right-of-way maps for public viewing and research. The Department provides a current set of tax maps to the County Auditor for taxation purposes. Every parcel of land in Wayne County is mapped and kept current with each landowner. These maps are available for viewing in the front office or on the department's website at http://wayne-county-engineer.com/Tax_Maps_&_Surveys/default.html. Tax maps of past years dated from 1929 forward are retained in a reference library and are available for viewing.

In 2023, there were approximately 59,600 tax parcels in Wayne County. There were 4,735 conveyances processed through this department during the year.

The Tax Map Department also administers the continuation of the county house numbering system. Numbers are assigned to new and existing building sites, cell tower sites, etc. that require an address. The new numbers are registered on a separate set of maps and index cards. New addresses are submitted to area post offices.

For many years, surveyors have been required to submit their survey plats for review and entry into the land records. There are approximately 34,633 surveys dating back to 1815. These surveys include numerous plats of allotments, subdivisions, and annexations. In 2023, this department reviewed and processed 274 survey plats.

This office prepares and maintains numerous volumes of other related maps, plats and drawings that form a part of the county mapping system. The office personnel deserve credit for performing the diversified duties that are required in serving the public and maintaining an efficient and well managed Tax Map Department.

Conveyances Processed 2023

Deed Affidavit	518
Deed Transfer	3455
Land Contracts	34
Transfer on Death	638
Transfer on Death Completed	90