



Public News For Public Works

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FITCH ROAD GRADE SEPARATION

Fitch Road is a minor arterial roadway in Olmsted Township and is an important link for emergency services in the area. Fitch Road also serves as a major school bus route for the Olmsted Falls School District. As a result, a project is underway to grade separate the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks and Fitch Road. The purpose of this project is to: Improve safety, improve traffic flow, improve emergency vehicle response times by reducing delays caused by the blocked at-grade rail crossing. The NS railroad tracks will remain in their existing location and Fitch Road will be raised to provide 23 feet of vertical clearance over the railroad tracks. The project will shift the existing alignment of Fitch Road 245 feet east and will require the creation of the new intersection between relocated Fitch Road and Bagley Road. When the project is complete, there will be a 270 feet long bridge over the tracks therefore eliminating the original at grade crossing. There are approximately 75 trains per day that use these tracks. Construction on the project began in May 2011. For three months the contractor, Great Lake Construction, hauled in fill dirt to build up the embankment needed to get high enough to cross over the CSX tracks. A total of 80,000 cubic



yards of fill dirt was delivered to the project. After the foundations and the piers were installed, the contractor had to deliver the concrete beams. The bridge requires 18 beams total.

Twelve of the beams are 68 feet long and six of the beams are 130 feet long. The contractor had



a problem finding an approved route for the beams due to the weight (the large beams weighed around 130,000

lbs.). They were not allowed to haul the beams across I-480 and the turnpike would not allow them to use the turnpike. The contractor worked with the Bridge Design and Bridge Inspection Departments in finding an approved route that could handle the large load. Completion date for Fitch Road is June of 2013, Great Lakes Construction plans on finishing the project in the summer of 2012.

Department Spotlight... Bridge Inspection & Maintenance

The Bridge Inspection/Maintenance Department is responsible for inspecting approximately 349 bridges and culverts, 58 railroad bridges, 22 aerial sewer lines, 2 parking garages and 108 municipality structures. This does not take into consideration all the township structures or the unknown amount of smaller culverts that we get requests for throughout the year. These structures are inspected because the Ohio Revised Code requires that each bridge in Ohio is inspected at least once each calendar year with no bridge exceeding an 18-month interval. The reports are reviewed and submitted to ODOT by January 20th.

The following types of inspections are performed:

Inventory or Initial Inspection: The first inspection of a bridge.

Routine Inspection: Document the existing physical and functional condition of the structure by: Identifying changes from previously recorded conditions, determine the need for a weight restriction on the bridge, determine improvement and maintenance needs, ensure the safety requirements are met, identify existing problems, identify future concerns and identify inventory changes from the previous inspection.

In-Depth Inspections: A close-up, hands-on inspection.

Interim or Special Inspections: Used for monitoring a particular known or suspected deficiency (e.g., foundation settlement or scour, member condition, public's use of a load-posted bridge, etc.).

Damage Inspection: Performed

following extreme weather-related events.

Confined Space Inspections: Limited access structures that need special equipment (gas detectors, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, two-way radios, etc.).

The typical duties and types of work, which the inspectors encompass during day to day activities are: Coordination of annual bridge/culvert inspections, teams, reports, etc.; Prepare and transmit necessary inventory and appraisal sheets as required by ODOT and FHWA; Manage a Bridge database system to monitor all inspection forms, maintenance recommendations, individual bridge data, etc.; Measure section loss of deteriorated structural members, record deficiencies, analyze, and post load restrictions as necessary to ensure safety of travelling public; Review inspection reports; Coordinate, implement and upgrade QA/QC reviews; Coordinate with railroads and RTA for cursory inspections of bridges over county roadways; Coordinate with vendors exhibiting new types of construction products – research, keep log of materials, track performance, etc.; Create and/or update lists, reports for Fracture-Critical Structures, Scour-Prone Structures and Confined Space Areas; Check/inspect structures for Load Ratings, analysis and the need for updates; Hire consultants for “special” inspections (i.e. mechanical/electrical systems, underwater inspections, ultrasonic inspections, flood or weather events, etc.); Coordinate with ODOT on maintenance items,

special inspections, overloads or super loads on bridges, Snooper usage, inventory, etc. Handle requirements, initiation and implementation of Illicit Discharge portion of Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) for office; Transmit all inspection forms to pertinent municipalities, city engineers and service personnel; Supervise the work order system for the Maintenance Department and prioritize maintenance contract projects (i.e. deck sealing program, painting program, railing upgrades/rehabilitation); Advise the Maintenance Department in all matters relating to the maintenance and repair of bridges and culverts; Develop estimates of maintenance work, coordinate with Fiscal Officer, track all maintenance work performed on bridges and monitor progress; Coordinate with Chief Bridge Design Engineer to create Capital Improvement Program based on inspection data, funding and other related factors Coordinate with Construction Department supervisors and staff for pre-con meetings, final walk-through, special needs on structures, etc.; Investigate and handle all calls/complaints received in office regarding bridges and/or culverts; Coordinate with FHWA, ODOT on Cleveland bridges, deficiencies, inspections, closures (if required), and maintenance items.

GOOD NEWS!

Jeff Horvath, Chief Bridge Inspection/Maintenance Engineer wrote to commend **Jim Hazimihalis** and **Matt Pastorelle**, both Bridge Inspectors/Maintenance Engineers for handling the inspection, coordination and load rating of the super-load that was to traverse the Stearns Road C-0125 structure. Jim and Matt handled it efficiently, and



in an excellent manner while Jeff was away at a seminar.

Celia Ross, Prevailing Wage Coordinator sent me an email regarding the new transition and move to her new location at 1642 Lakeside Avenue. Celia was a bit nervous on how the other agency's would accept her department. Celia goes on to say that the Finance Department has been great and very helpful. She would like to give special thanks to **Ella Foster**, Fiscal Officer and **Mike Sarges**, Account Clerk for jumping in and helping with

the new electronic voucher system without any complaints.

The Charity Choice Campaign kicked off October 31st and wrapped up November 18th. Thank you to everyone that participated in the campaign. Especially to the coordinators from the Department of Public Works for a job well done; **Amy McDonald**, Stonebridge and Test Lab Facilities, **Kelly Hrabik**, Valley View and Kennel, **Jackie Smith**, Central Services. The representatives organized bake sales, potluck/tailgate luncheon and dress down

days along with selling raffle tickets for restaurant gift certificates. The total amount of money that was raised was \$675.22. The proceeds will be donated to the following charities, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Cancer Research Institute, Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons, Inc. and the Pancreatic Cancer Network.



SAFETY:

They're all around us from winter to spring; coughing, sneezing, red noses co-workers who claim they're coming down with something. That something could mean you'll soon be following suit if you don't take the proper precautions to avoid and pre-

vent illness. Keep the Flu **A-W-A-Y** this winter. **A**void close contact with people that are sick. If you become sick, stay home and get plenty of rest. **W**ash your hands with soap and water often. Use hand sanitizer in a pinch then wash your hands as soon as possi-

ble. **A**void touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands to prevent spreading germs. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or forearm when you cough or sneeze to avoid spreading germs. **Y**ield to healthy habits; Exercise, eat healthy, drink

plenty of fluids and get a good night's sleep.





Department of Public Works

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT....

Phil Salett, has worked for the Department of Public Works for the past 13 years. Phil is a Custodial Worker at the Jane Edna Hunter Building on Euclid Avenue where he has worked the first shift for the last two years. Before being transferred to the Hunter Building, Phil worked at the Virgil E. Brown Building and the

Metzenbaum Center. During his shift Phil assists with the cleanliness and maintenance of the building and during the winter helps with snow blowing and shoving of the sidewalks leading up to the entrances. The Jane Edna Hunter building is the home to Cuyahoga County Children and Family Services, during the holidays Phil enjoys setting up for special

activities and events for the children. When Phil isn't working he's usually volunteering as football coach at the Lonnie Burten Recreation Center in Cleveland, he's proud to let readers know that his team won the championship in 2011. Phil is a die hard Cleveland Browns fan, most Sundays he will tailgate with friends and family and watching the

game from the comfort of his home.



Recycling...

Cuyahoga County government has stepped up its efforts to promote recycling by asking county employees to recycle bottles and cans, not just paper products. In October the County's recycling program expanded to include food and beverage containers. Everyone has seen the new recycling

bins placed in the breakrooms, elevators and other locations throughout county owned and leased buildings. All employees are required to place all cans, glass and plastic containers in the green recycling bins along with aluminum, steel (food cans) plastic (beverage bottles), glass (bottles

and jars), make sure all containers are empty. Please continue to place your paper, newspaper, magazines, envelopes, junk mail and brochures, etc in the blue recycling bins. The hope is that by emphasizing recycling, the county can further reduce the amount of its waste that ends up in a landfill. "The more

waste we can keep out of landfills, the better it is for the environment—and we may be able to save a little bit of money, too," Ed Fitzgerald said.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY... DECEMBER 2011

- 12/01 *Stanley D. Kosilesky*
- 12/03 *Scott A. Beckrest*
- 12/04 *Darryl Myles*
- 12/04 *David Ruzich*
- 12/05 *Stephen N. Toth*
- 12/09 *Paul M. Ciupa*
- 12/15 *Jessica Y. Jadrych*
- 12/19 *Kimberly Shelby*
- 12/20 *Thomas O'Boyle*
- 12/21 *Colleen Oldham*
- 12/21 *Bernice Tucker*
- 12/21 *Neil M. Juhnke*
- 12/21 *Charles W. McCleary*
- 12/22 *Mark Russo*
- 12/27 *Dwight Marshall*
- 12/27 *John Myers*
- 12/27 *Timothy F. Hennie*
- 12/27 *Ernest F. Zadell*
- 12/28 *Sally Thomas*
- 12/30 *Ruben Tolbert*
- 12/31 *Norbert J. Novak*
- 12/31 *Santo T. Incorvaia*
- 12/31 *Anne F. Kiser*

