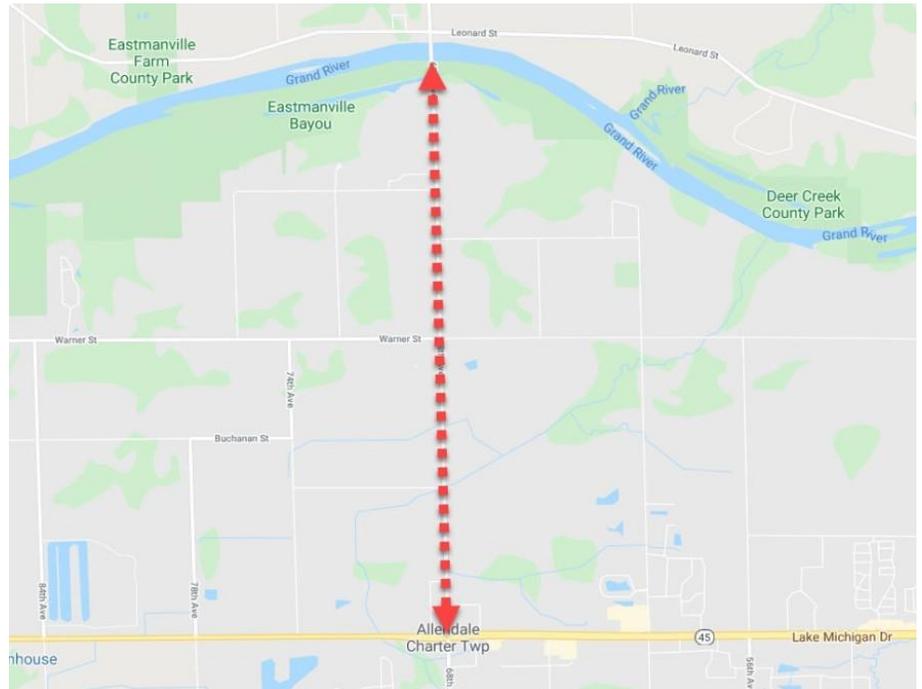




## OCRC receives grant for 2021 68th Ave. project

The Michigan Department of Transportation recently awarded a state Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category F grant of \$375,000 to the Ottawa County Road Commission to improve 68th Avenue from M-45 to the Grand River.

68th Avenue is a heavily used north-south commercial route between M-45 and I-96 in Ottawa County's Allendale Township. It includes one of only four crossings over the Grand River between Grand Rapids and Lake Michigan, and serves as an emergency route for U.S. 31 and M-231.



To maintain the road's all-season capability, the OCRC plans to resurface 68th Avenue from M-45 to the Grand River in 2021. Planned work on the 68th Avenue bridge over the Grand River is still slated to take place this summer.

The total estimated cost of construction is \$1,021,847, including \$375,000 in state Category F funds and \$646,847 from the OCRC.

Enacted in 1987 and reauthorized in 1993, the TEDF helps finance highway, road and street projects that are critical to the movement of people and products, as well as getting workers to their jobs, materials to growers and manufacturers, and finished goods to consumers. TEDF "Category F" or "Urban Areas in Rural Counties" grants provide state funding for public roadway improvements that create system continuity with the secondary all-season road system.

Category F grants provide funding for projects that include improving access to the state all-season system or

improving safety and all-season capabilities on routes having high commercial traffic. Eligible road agencies include county road commissions, cities and villages.

## 2019 Annual Report now available online

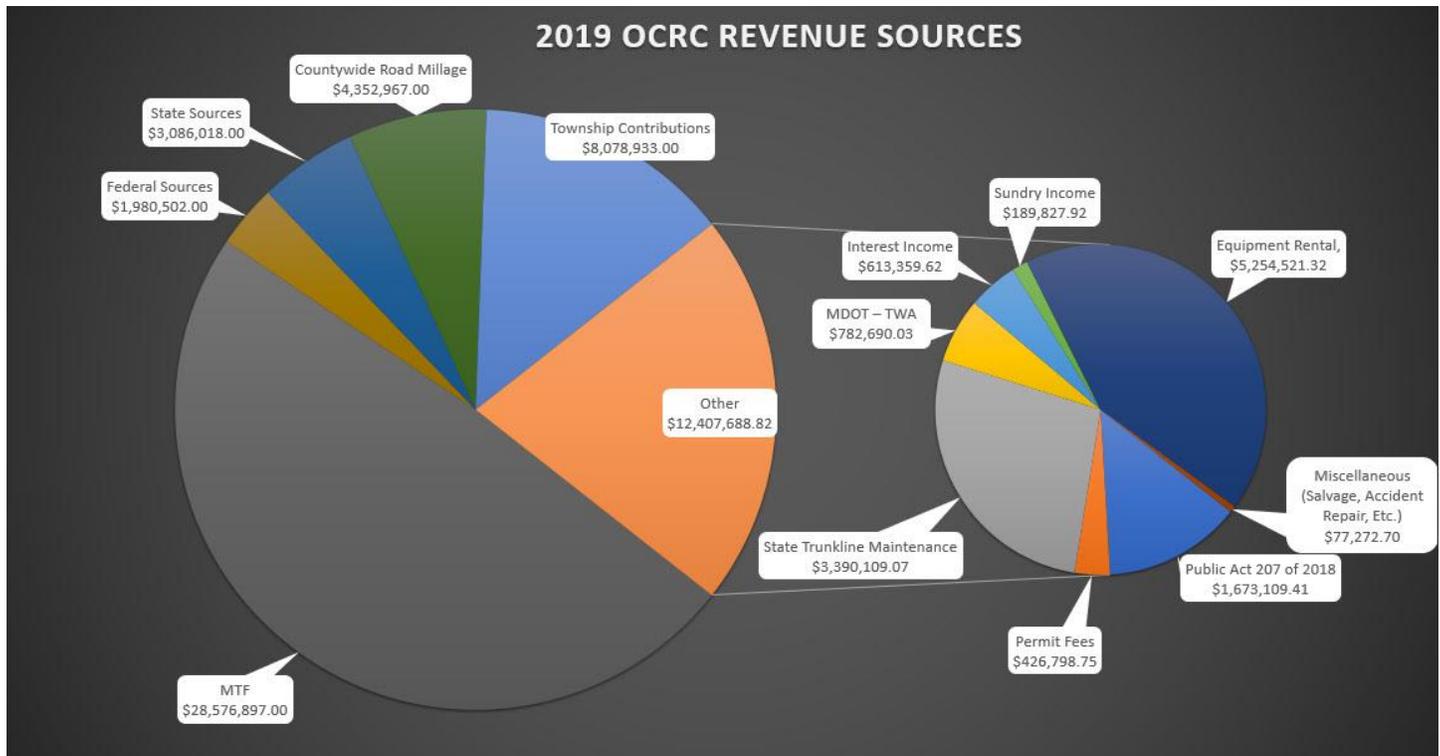
The Ottawa County Road Commission recently released its *2019 Annual Report* to the public.

This report contains a review of Road Commission activities related to the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other transportation infrastructure during 2019.

The full report can be found online on the [‘Planning & Reports’](#) section of our website.

Here are a few highlights of what information can be found in the 2019 report:

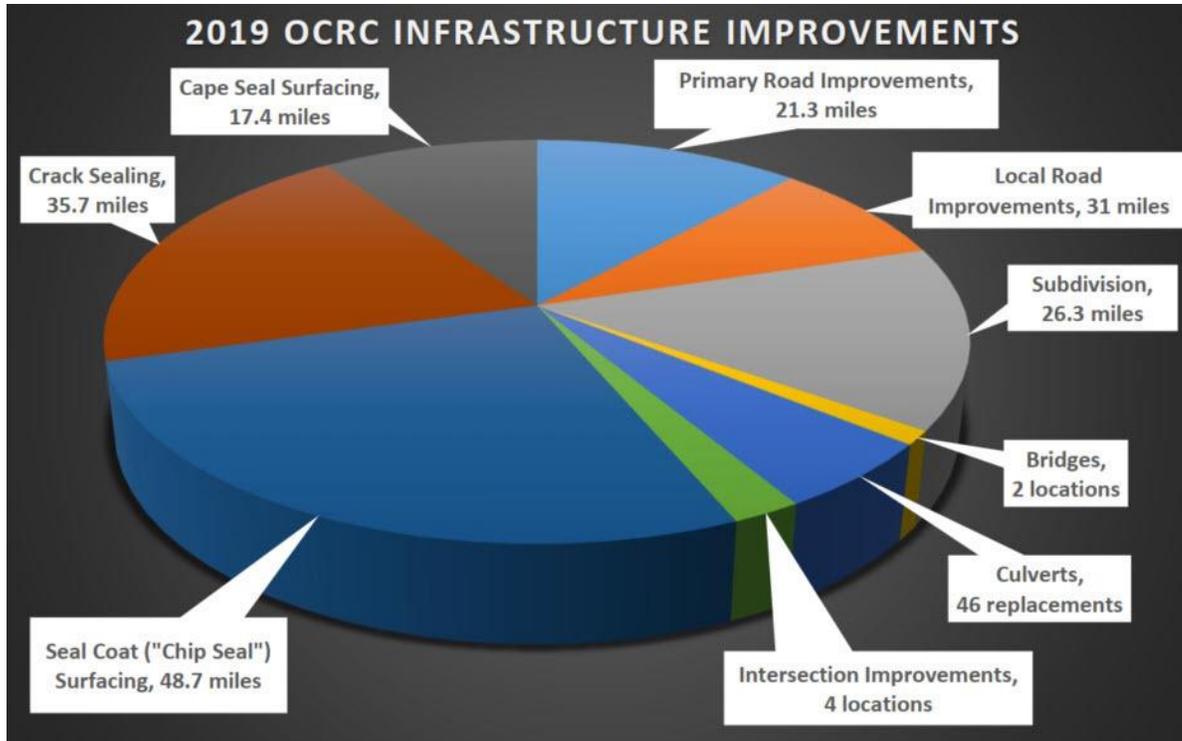
- In 2019, the OCRC maintained 1,703 miles of certified roadways within the 17 townships of Ottawa County.
  - The primary road system was comprised of 427 miles of paved roadways.
  - The local road system was comprised of 966 miles of paved roadways and 310 miles of gravel roadways.
- The OCRC maintained, under contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation, 521 lane miles of interstate and state trunklines.
- The OCRC received \$58,483,006 in total revenue in 2019.



- Contributions from the townships and other governmental agencies make up almost 14% of this revenue. This support is much appreciated and the OCRC looks forward to a continued working

relationship to provide the highest possible level of service for all the public roads and bridges in Ottawa County.

The effects of the 2019 infrastructure improvements from the received revenue can be summarized in the following pie chart:



## All about those pesky Michigan potholes

The roller coaster ride of temperatures this winter means there's always a chance for potholes to pop up on Michigan roads, even well before the spring thaw cycle.

These pesky road obstacles occur when snow and ice melt as part of Michigan's freeze-thaw cycles.

The graphic to the right explains in detail how a pothole forms.

During the winter months, cold patch, also known as cold asphalt, is the most common method used to fill potholes because it can be applied right from our trucks without heating.

Additionally, this material is not dependent upon warm weather. Road agencies like cold patch because it retains

**Michigan's Pothole Season!**  
Michigan winters provide prime conditions for potholes to form.

1. Rain or snow seeps through the road surface into the base and sub-soil.
2. Low temperatures cause the wet soil and base to freeze and expand (frost heave).
3. When temperatures warm up, the soil contracts, leaving air pockets underneath the road surface.
4. Traffic driving over the weakened pavement causes it to collapse and form a pothole.

During periods of thawing and freezing potholes are likely to form. Contact the Road Commission with questions or to report a pothole.

**OTTAWA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**  
www.ottawacorc.com  
Facebook & Twitter: @ottawacorc  
616-842-5400

its pliable properties when the temperature drops, so it can be used year-round.

Permanent repairs are typically made during the summer maintenance season using hot mix asphalt, once these materials are more readily available.

If you notice a pothole, please contact our office at 616-842-5400 to report the pothole location or utilize our online service request form, located at <http://www.ottawacorc.com/contact/service-requests/>.

---

**Important Dates:**

**February 13, 2020 | 9 a.m. | Board Meeting**

**February 27, 2020 | 9 a.m. | Board Meeting**



14110 Lakeshore Drive  
Grand Haven, Michigan 49441  
616-842-5400

Office Hours: Monday-Friday; 7:30AM-4PM

The Ottawa County Road Commissioners:

Tom Bird | Tom Elhart | Betty Gajewski | Tim Grifhorst | Jim Miedema

Managing Director: Brett Laughlin