

**DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION**

DATE: November 20, 2013
TO: Rural Roads Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee
FROM: Dave Schamp, Division Manager
RE: SHOULDER MAINTENANCE

At its October 2013 meeting your committee asked for a report on the recent Glencoe Road shoulder maintenance project. Specifically, they were interested in the cost of the project and how those costs compared to similar work done previously under a private sector contract. This memo is intended to address your questions.

Projects:

Jackson School Road: Work was done by the private sector as a component of a much larger overlay project in FY 2008-09. The project limits were from Scotch Church Road to Evergreen Road, approximately 1.5 miles. Work included one major fill section. The contractor was allowed to close the road during daytime hours for two-weeks. Cost: approximately \$475,000 or \$60 per centerline foot.

Glencoe Road: Work was completed by County forces as a stand alone project in FY 2012-13. Crews were reassigned from other work areas, predominantly crews that would have been doing drainage maintenance activities. The project limits were from Zion Church Road to Evergreen Road, approximately 2 miles. Work included two major fill sections. The road remained open through the duration of the six-week work period. Cost: approximately \$660,000 or \$62.50 per centerline foot.

Conclusions:

1. Closing the road results in a significant time savings for completion of work and a lower cost. Reduced costs result primarily from a significantly reduced traffic control effort. The closed work zone provides improved safety for workers. The closure does however, inconvenience road users.
2. Completing this type of work using County forces provides a comparable quality of work and unit costs. Having County forces do this type of work at the appropriate time results in improved use of available resources.
3. This type of shoulder maintenance results in reduced long-term maintenance costs and improves road safety for all users.

I'd be happy to answer any further questions.

c: c/file