



## County Road Association Says County Roads Improve, Wide Gap Still Remains

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Roads in counties across Michigan had 6,571 miles improved in 2024, an increase of less than 1 percent, but a gap of nearly 7,000 miles still exists, according to data released today by the County Road Association (CRA).

CRA CEO Denise **DONOHUE** said the road association's goal was to improve 15 percent of the 90,000-mile county road network every year, which is 13,500 miles.

“We’re not halfway to the goal and the trajectory has flatlined. Our 2024 progress report should be a clear call for our legislators and governor to come together and enact a long-term, sustainable road funding plan as quickly as possible,” Donohue said.

Donohue said the counties were making minor fixes and short-term road preservation tactics, because of a lack of funding.

“In 2025, following years of double-digit road construction inflation and revenue models increasingly impacted by more fuel-efficient, hybrid and electric vehicles, we’ve had to revise our strategic plan to shift nearly all emphasis to short-term asset prevention,” CRA President Jerry **BYRNE** said.

Byrne, the managing director for the Kent County Road Commission, said the area was growing economically but short-term fixes have failed to keep up.

He said counties were responsible for 75 percent of the road miles and 52 percent of the bridges that exist across the state. With a 25 percent increase in construction costs, counties were increasingly strapped for funding.

“County road agencies cannot stretch existing dollars any further. We need more transportation funds in this legislative session, along with prompt adoption of a mileage-based pilot program for the future,” CRA Chief Deputy Ed **NOYOLA** said.