Office of the Lucas County Engineer 1049 S. McCord Road Holland, Ohio 43528

> Phone: 419-213-2860 FAX: 419-213-2829



Mike Pniewski, P.E., P.S. County Engineer

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## LCEO kicks off 2023 construction season

Spring is here and construction season is underway at the Lucas County Engineer's Office. We have 19 projects totaling over \$13 million in funding from federal, state and local sources, ranging from road resurfacing and roundabouts to bridge repair and traffic safety improvements.

"We are excited to kick off the Lucas County Engineer's Office 2023 construction season, which is the largest our office has ever executed," Lucas County Engineer Mike Pniewski said. "We look forward to providing the citizens of Lucas County better roads, bridges, and drainage improvements."

Our first major project, construction of a new roundabout at Brint Road and Centennial Road in Sylvania Township, began Monday. Work will take around 45 days and be completed by Crestline Paving and Excavating of Toledo. This will result in a significantly lower risk of crashes at the intersection that cause death and serious injury while providing good traffic flow along the Centennial Road corridor.

Other projects include over 17 miles of resurfacing work, installation of a traffic signal on the University Parks Trail to improve safety crossing King Road and several bridge repairs. All road closures and detours can be found online at our website and on our <u>"Road Closure Map."</u>

Work zone safety and the safety of our workers is our top priority. According to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, there were 4,628 work zone-related crashes in Ohio last year, 21 were deadly resulting in 23 deaths, and 85 involved serious injuries.

"We ask our citizens to be patient as we work to improve our infrastructure," Pniewski said. "Keep our workers safe by giving them plenty of room so they can get back to their families every day.

**Plan ahead** and know your route ahead of time, be aware of any work zones and avoid if possible. **Pay attention** to your surroundings (signs, workers) and avoid distractions (using your phone, eating, drinking, etc.). **Slow down** when approaching a work zone and give workers plenty of space.

Ohio's Move Over law requires drivers to move over a lane for vehicles with flashing lights. If drivers cannot safely move over, they are required to slow down. Ohio's new distracted driving law, which makes texting while driving a primary offense, took effect April 4.

All 2023 projects can be found online on our <u>CIP Map</u>. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter at Lucas County Engineer's Office for Updates.

Michael Tatar Public Information Officer 419-213-2855 w 419-461-6483 m mtatar@co.lucas.oh.us





