

TO: MAYOR LANDRY AND NOVI CITY COUNCIL
FROM: COUNCILMEMBER ANDREW MUTCH
SUBJECT: ROAD COMMISSION JURISDICTION OVER MAJOR NOVI ROADS
DATE: JANUARY 22, 2009
CC: CLAY PEARSON, MARYANNE CORNELIUS

*Mayor & Council #5
Jan 26, 2009*

Summary: Direct city administration to provide information related to the benefits and costs of transferring jurisdiction and the process for transferring jurisdiction over certain county roads.

Background: For the City's upcoming goals setting session, I would like the Council to consider the city taking jurisdiction over certain County roads within the city, specifically:

- Grand River
- Novi Road
- Ten Mile Road
- Twelve Mile Road

All four of these roads are major transportation routes through the city and all primarily serve the business and residents of Novi within our borders. Currently, these roads are under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC). While this arrangement helps to save the city certain costs related to road maintenance and upgrades, it also means that these tasks are not always done as well or as quickly as the city would like. It also means that the city must compete with other RCOC projects and communities for a limited pool of funding. This arrangement also adds an additional layer of review for projects proposals on these roads. It also limits the city's ability to create uniform standards for roadway improvements like street trees and sidewalks as the RCOC has its own standards that do not always match the city's standards.

As part of the goal's setting process, I would like the Council to consider whether it would be to the city's benefit to take jurisdiction over these roads and if so, what would be the related costs, whether the city could request the RCOC to complete certain improvements before taking jurisdiction of the roads and the steps required to transfer jurisdiction. This request would direct city administration to provide information related to the benefits and costs of transferring jurisdiction and the process for transferring jurisdiction over certain county roads to Council. This information would be provided as part of the goals setting process so that the Council could make an informed decision about whether to pursue this in the upcoming year.

Requested Action: Direct city administration to provide a brief analysis of the benefits and costs of the city taking jurisdiction over the following County Roads: Grand River, Novi Road, Ten Mile Road and Twelve Mile Road. Also the city administration would provide an outline of the process to transfer jurisdiction.

Council Goal/Strategy: Improve Infrastructure (Roads, Water and Sewer) 2008 – 2009 goal: Major Roads