Local Roads

• Facts about Local Roads and Bridges
  • Adirondack Park
  • Essex County
  • Local Roads and Bridges

• Municipal Decision Making process
  • Planning / Budgeting
  • Reactionary

• How to incorporate resiliency and wildlife concerns
Adirondack Park

- 6.1 million acres (9530 square miles)
  - Not a national Park
  - Larger than any national park within the Continental US
    - Death Valley – 5269 Square Miles
    - Yellowstone – 3468 Square miles
  - 52% private land
  - 48% public lands
  - More than 10,000 lakes
  - More than 30,000 miles of rivers and streams
Essex County

- Area - 1794 Square miles (land area)
  - 2nd largest in NYS (by land area)
- Largest County Fully within the Adirondack Park
- Population – 38500 (2015 estimate)
  - 3rd lowest in NYS
- Population Density – 22 people per square mile
  - 3rd lowest in NYS
- Households – 15571
- Average number of persons per household – 2.32
- Median Household Income - $45,216.00 (2013)
Local Roads and Bridges

• 1040 miles of Local road in Essex County
  – County – 360 miles – 34.6%
  – Towns / Villages – 680 miles – 65.4%

• 136 Locally owned Bridges
  – Spans of 20’ to 130’

• Culverts -92 - county owned culverts larger than 3’ in diameter
  – More than 6000 linear feet
  – Sizes 3’ to 18’ diameter

• Culverts – approximately 150 – Town and Village owned larger than 3’ in Diameter
Municipal Decision Making process

• Planning / Budgeting
  – 136 Bridges / 50 year life span = approximately 3 bridges per year
  – 360 miles of County road / 10 year life span = 36 miles of road per year
  – 680 miles of Town / Village road / 10 year life span = 68 miles of road per year
  – 92 major County culverts / 30 year life span = 3 Culverts per year
  – 150 major Town / Village culverts / 30 year life span = 5 per year
Bridges Budgeting

• 3 Bridges per year
  – Costs ranging from $500,000 to $3,000,000 each
  – Average cost $850,000 x 3 = $2,550,000 annually
  – $2,550,000 / 15571 households = $163.77 / household per year
County Roads Budgeting

- 36 miles per year
- Wearing surface only – 1.5” of asphalt top
- Average cost = $100,000 per mile
- 36 miles x $100,000 per mile = $3,600,000.00
- $3,600,000 / 15571 households = $231.20 / household per year
Town / Village Roads Budgeting

• 68 miles per year
  – Wearing surface only – 1.5” of asphalt top
  – Average cost $100,000 per mile
  – 68 miles x $100,000.00 = $6,800,000.00
  – $6,800,000.00 / 15571 households = $436.71 / household per year
Major Culverts Budgeting

• 3 County and 5 Town / Village per year
  – Costs ranging from $10,000 to $600,000
  – Assuming average cost of $125,000 each
  – $1,000,000.00 per year / 15571 Households = $64.22 per year
Annual Costs

- Bridges - $163.77 / household
- County Roads – $231.20 / household
- Town / Village Roads - $436.71 / household
- Major Culverts - $ 64.22 / household
- Total $895.90 / household
$900.00 per year / per household

• Doesn’t include:
  – snow plowing / sand / salt
  – signage maintenance
  – Guide Rail Maintenance
  – Mowing
  – Tree maintenance
  – Highway equipment repair
  – Emergencies
  – NYSDOT – RED Flags on Bridges
Municipal Decision Making Process

- Reactionary
  - Municipalities tend to be reactionary
  - Municipalities are led by elected officials
  - Elected officials change every 2-4 years
  - “It Won’t happen on my watch”
    - New Orlean’s - Hurricane Katrina
  - “Don’t fix it til its broke”
Reactionary – Budget Cuts

• First thing cut in municipal budgets tend to be non-mandated items
  – Bridge repairs
  – Road Repairs
  – Building repairs
  – Equipment replacement
  – Equipment repairs
Deferred Maintenance
How to incorporate wildlife and resiliency concerns?

- Planning assistance
  - Design support
  - Regulatory agency support
- Funding assistance
  - Grants
  - Loans