

From the desk of Robert Keller...

Winter is finally showing signs of releasing its frigid grip on Northeast Ohio and we are seeing potholes everywhere. Frost damage occurs when there are connecting days of below-zero temperatures and the frost goes deeper into the ground, heaving up large sections of roadway. Our road crews are busy patching holes with cold patch mix, but will switch to hot patch mix once the asphalt plants open for the season. It's a continuing cycle because of our winter weather.

Adequate funding for road maintenance is an issue that we have faced for many years in Brimfield. Five years ago, the voters agreed to a 0.95 mill levy for road maintenance and reconstruction. That levy will expire at the end of 2015. **Issue #1** will be on the ballot for your vote on May 5, 2015, **and is a renewal levy and not a new tax.**

During the past five years, we have completed the reconstruction of Cline Rd., Howe Rd. (SR 43 to the Summit Co. line), Saxe Rd. (west of Sunnybrook Rd.) and Sunnybrook Rd., (north of Tallmadge Rd. to the City of Kent line). Roads were resurfaced in the Beechcrest and Evergreen Acres allotments. Projects planned for this summer will be the reconstruction of Congress Lake Rd., and depending on bid prices, resurfacing a portion of Mosser Estates (McTaggart Blvd., Selnik Rd., Grace Rd., Lor-Ron Dr., and Irish Rd.).

If Issue #1 is successfully renewed, the following roads have been identified as being in the most critical need for repair and/or resurfacing: Dussel Rd., Arthur Rd., Martha Rd., Boydell Rd., Meadowview Dr., Morrow Rd., Morley Dr., Neville Dr., Queenstown Rd., Olmsby Dr., and Pelham Dr. Once the sewer project is completed on Lynnwood Dr., the intent is to resurface that road as well.

Other roads under consideration for repair and/or resurfacing, if funds are available are: Estes Dr. (north of Howe Rd.), Brimfield Dr., South Beal Dr., Shermanwood Rd., and Chestnut Dr. We will be applying for grant funds to resurface Sherman Rd., Meloy Rd., and Edson Rd. In addition, spot repairs are needed throughout Brimfield, even in the newer residential neighborhoods.

Issue #1 is a renewal of an existing 0.95 road levy. Money used by this levy can only be used for the construction and/or maintenance of roads and bridges. **The cost to the owner of \$100,000.00 fair market value home would continue to be \$29.77 a year for 5 years. Issue #1 will not increase your taxes.** In the meantime, drive carefully!