

## MWF Roads: Status Report

January 18, 2015

Needless to say, there have been a number of developments in the last few weeks on our road project. Just before the Christmas holiday, work had slowed down due to a problem with the sub-surface on Tropical Park. Approximately 75 feet of road bed was found to be unsuitable to support the road surface. While the county and the engineers worked out a solution which was likely to include digging up the unsuitable material to a depth of 3 feet, the contractor opted to delay paving both Tropical Park and Woodridge as these roads would be used for equipment and dump truck routes.

Concurrently, numerous areas were detected that indicated that the contractor may not have complied with the specifications. Problems included new potholes in recently paved surfaces, segregation of new asphalt, raveling of new asphalt, substandard joints between adjacent asphalt sections, asphalt density, asphalt thickness, broken edges on the new asphalt roads and unacceptable driveway connections to the new asphalt.

The county project coordinator, contract engineer, Marion County MSTU director and I toured the entire project on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> to examine these issues and gauge their extent. Following that inspection, the county issued a cease work order on January 6, preventing the contractor from doing any more work until the contractor developed and submitted a written plan to correct any and all deficiencies.

That plan was submitted to the county on Friday, January 16. It has been approved by the county and the contractor has been directed to return to work on Tuesday, January 20 (Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> is a holiday). They will begin by addressing the issue on Tropical Park as well as re-grading and re-sealing both Tropical Park and Woodridge.

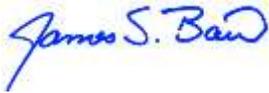
The contractor has agreed to an intensive inspection of the entire project identifying any and all deficiencies, prepare a solution plan for each and every deficiency, and submission those plans to the county for approval. They have also agreed to suspend any requests for further payments (nearly \$900,000) until all deficiencies have been corrected.

Additionally, the county holds a payment and performance bond to ensure the contractor performs according to the specifications and standards of the contract.

As we move toward successful completion of this project, I would ask that you do a couple of things. First, if you have any issues on the quality of the roads, please send them to me *in writing* via [mwfroads@aol.com](mailto:mwfroads@aol.com) or my personal e-mail. Pictures are encouraged as well. I will make certain they are added to the list. If you prefer, you may contact the Project Coordinator, George Solana or the Director of the MSTU, Teresa Darnell. Each of us stand ready to help. Second, I

would ask that you continue to be patient. Please remember that the substantial completion date for the project is March 31, 2015. The contractor has every right, every intention, and every responsibility to correct any deficiencies. I believe that the county will hold them to that responsibility.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James S. Bain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue highlight behind it.

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