

MACOUPIN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

FUND SUMMARY –JANUARY 2008

The County Highway Department is responsible for the administration of the following nine funds:

County Highway Fund
(County Highway)

The County Highway Fund is derived from the County Highway Tax Levy as authorized by State Statute in 1921 at a maximum rate of .10% of assessed valuation. The 2006 levy (payable in 2007) was \$430,665 which represents a rate of 0.0881%. The use of these funds is provided for by State Statutes, which state in part:

“For the purpose of improving, maintaining, repairing, constructing and reconstructing the County Highways required to be maintained, repaired and constructed by the County, and for payment of lands, quarries, pits or other deposits of road material required by the County for such purpose, and for acquiring and maintaining machinery and equipment, or for acquiring, maintaining, operating or constructing buildings for housing highway offices, machinery, equipment and materials, used for the construction, repair and maintenance of such highways. All monies derived from the County Highway Tax shall be placed in a separate fund to be known as the County Highway Fund and shall be used for no other purpose”.

County Bridge Fund
(County-Township Bridge)

State Statute also provides for a County Bridge Fund derived from a County Bridge Fund Levy with a maximum rate of .05% of assessed valuation. The 2006 levy (payable in 2007) was \$190,646 which represents a rate of 0.0390%. Monies derived from this Tax Levy must be placed in a separate fund designated as the County Bridge Fund. This fund is to be used for meeting one-half the cost of bridge, culvert and drainage structure projects with a road district furnishing the remaining one-half, for other joint bridge projects with any other highway authority through mutual agreements, and for bridges, culverts and drainage structures on County Highways when the above commitments have been fulfilled.

Federal-Aid Matching Tax
(Local Match)

The Federal Aid Matching Tax Fund is also provided by State Statute. The maximum rate of .05% of assessed valuation is for the purpose of providing funds to pay the County's portion of construction or maintenance of highways on the Federal-Aid Highway network. All monies derived from the Matching Tax Levy shall be placed in a separate fund and shall be used for no other purpose. The 2006 levy (payable in 2007) was \$215,577 which represents a rate of 0.0441%.

County Motor Fuel Tax Fund
(County MFT)

The Motor Fuel Tax Law was enacted by the State Legislature in 1929. The County Motor Fuel Tax Fund is derived from the allotment of State Motor Fuel Tax funds and is distributed on the basis of vehicle registration fees. The uses of Motor Fuel Tax funds are set by State Statute and include construction of highways within the county, designated as County Highways, maintenance of County Highways and as the matching funds when used on Federal-Aid projects. All expenditures of Motor Fuel Tax monies are subject to the approval of the State. The 2007-2008 budget anticipates revenue of \$1,410,000 from motor fuel taxes.

Federal Highway Funds-Surface Transportation Program Rural
(STR Funds)

STR funds are allocated directly to each county in Illinois in the following manner:

1. 10% distributed to each county directly.
2. 30% distributed to each county based on the ratio of the county's rural population to the State's rural population.
3. 30% distributed to each county based on the ratio of the county's rural land mass to the State's rural land mass.
4. 30% distributed to each county based on the ratio of the county's total rural mileage of highways to the State's rural mileage of highways.

The allocation is posted to the Local Roads fund accounting system and all projects, upon authorization, are deducted from the county's balance. The Federal allocation to Illinois was \$33.63 million for FY 2008. Macoupin County received \$535,786 for 2008.

Federal Highway Bridge Program
(HBP)

In 1978, the Federal Bridge Program was expanded to provide for almost all bridges to be eligible for funding from this program. Prior to 1978, these funds were limited to bridges on the federal-aid system only. Illinois' allocation for HBP funds is based on the total square footage of inventoried deficient bridges in the state. Illinois in turn allocates an

allowable portion of HBP funds to local agencies on the same square footage basis. Macoupin County received \$394,197 for 2008.

State Matching Assistance
(State Match)

The State Matching Assistance Program is designed to assist counties in matching federal funds when the county cannot derive sufficient matching funds from local taxation (see Federal-Aid Matching Tax). The county can use STR funds to pay up to 80% of eligible project costs. The remaining is considered the local match. Some counties, including Macoupin County, do not have a sufficient tax base to generate the local funds needed for the match. The State Matching Assistance Program of \$4 million per year addresses this problem. The amount of funds received by each county will vary from year to year. Macoupin County received approximately \$86,695 for 2008.

Township Bridge Program

Annually the General Assembly appropriates to the Illinois Department of Transportation \$15,000,000.00 for apportionment to the counties for use by the Road Districts for construction of bridges 20 feet or more in length. The basis of apportionment to each county is by road district road mileage similar to the distribution of MFT funds. The priority of bridges replaced is determined by the County Engineer. Macoupin County's current annual allotment is approximately \$220,000. The funds must be appropriated within 24 months or they enter the Illinois Department of Transportation's Lapse Pool Fund.

Township Motor Fuel Tax Fund
(Township MFT)

Each month the Department of Transportation shall allot to the counties their share of the amount of motor fuel taxes apportioned for the use of the road districts. The county administers the funds and allots to each road district in the proportion that each road districts mileage bears to the total road district mileage in the County.