

Bridges

Bridges in Oakland Township are the responsibility of Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), not the Township government.

Here are two old press releases about bridges in Oakland County. This first is a 2016 summary of bridge inspection work done by RCOC contractor Great Lakes Engineering Group. Excerpts copied from the news release (link below) are”

“According to the report, 61 percent of RCOC’s 107 bridges greater than 20 feet in length are in good condition, while 17 percent are fair, 9 percent are poor and 13 percent are critical.”

Then this quote from Commissioner Ron Fowkes

“Fowkes added that while RCOC would like to bring all its bridges to good condition, it is not worried that any of its bridges are at risk of falling down. “That’s because every bridge greater than 20 feet in length receives a detailed inspection every two years,” he explained.”

The full press release:

<https://www.rcocweb.org/DocumentCenter/View/1313/ANNUAL-BRIDGE-INSPECTION-REPORT-REVEALS-RCOC-STRUCTURES-IN-FAIRLY-GOOD-SHAPE?bidId=>

I have entered a FOIA request for the most recent report on Oakland Township bridges.

The RCOC philosophy of preventive maintenance is outlined in this old press release about work in 2019 on the Adams Road bridge in Oakland Township over Paint Creek (north of Gunn, south of Orion)

<https://www.rcocweb.org/DocumentCenter/View/6915/Adams-Road-Bridges?bidId>

To learn more about Road Commission for Oakland County see their website

[Road Commission for Oakland County | Official Website \(rcocweb.org\)](https://www.rcocweb.org/)

RCOC is directed by three commissioners who are appointed by the elected Oakland County Board of Commissioners. There are 21 County Commissioners, see them all at this link

<https://www.oakgov.com/boc/Commissioners/Pages/default.aspx>

The County Commissioner for Addison, Brandon, **Oakland** and Oxford townships, as well as the villages of Leonard, Ortonville and Oxford is Mike Spisz.



Michael Spisz (R)
Minority Caucus Chairperson

The three appointed Roads Commission for Oakland County Commissioners that Mike Spisz participated in appointing are:

RCOC Board of Commissioners (from left to right) Chair Andrea LaLonde, Vice Chair Nancy Quarles and Member Ron Fowkes.



Once appointed the three Road Commissioners are then independent from any control by the County Board of Commissioners. This is different from most counties (Macomb, for example) where the County Board of Commissioners retains direct ultimate control of their county road commission.

The Road Commission for Oakland County Director Dennis Kolar reports to these three commissioners and all employees report to him. His bio is at this link: <https://www.rcocweb.org/directory.aspx?EID=7>



Informed sources tell me that substantial technical competence in RCOC comes from 25 year veteran of RCOC, Gary Piotrowicz, Deputy Managing Director and County Highway Engineer. (No photo on RCOC website). See his bio here -

<https://www.rcocweb.org/directory.aspx?EID=8>