



DATE: March 29, 2021
TO: Project file, Stearns School Road at Mill Creek Emergency Culvert Replacement
FROM: Shane E. Schneider, P.E., County Engineer
SUBJ: Emergency Procurement for Stearns School Road at Mill Creek Emergency Culvert Replacement

The purpose of this memo is to explain the need for an emergency procurement to replace the culverts under Stearns School Road at Mill Creek, located 1300 feet east of Hutchins Road. There are two 8.6' x 13.9' corrugated structural plate pipe arches at this location, and the west culvert has failed. The procurement will include all necessary professional engineering services and contractual construction services to replace the culverts. Depending on the ultimate repair strategy selected, an interim repair measure may be taken to allow the roadway to reopen sooner. As this is an emergency, selection of the services will be based on expertise rather than the sealed bidding process.

The nature of the emergency is that the failed west culvert has caused the collapse of the pavement across Stearns School Road at Mill Creek. The Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT) maintenance crews discovered the beginning signs of the culvert failure on Friday, March 26, 2021 and immediately closed the road to traffic and installed a detour. LCDOT is monitoring the culvert with daily inspections and has installed a web cam for continuous remote monitoring.

Stearns School Road and the associated right-of-way is County owned. Therefore, it is the position of Lake County that the need to replace the culverts to protect the safety of the public constitutes an emergency and justifies invoking Article 6-103 of the Lake County Purchasing Ordinance.

Therefore, as County Engineer of Lake County, I hereby declare that an emergency exists, and that the terms as defined in Article 6-103 of the Lake County Purchasing Ordinance effective July 12, 2017 exist, and I hereby invoke Article 6-103 of the Lake County Purchasing Ordinance.

LCDOT will work with a design consultant to develop plans for the emergency replacement of the Stearns School Road culverts at Mill Creek.

Furthermore, to select a contractor to perform the work, I am hereby directing my staff to secure a contractor capable of effectively performing emergency replacement work.

An appropriation of funds for the above-said professional engineering services and contract construction services will be presented to the County Board at its July 13, 2021 meeting or a future meeting.

Shane E. Schneider, P.E.
County Engineer