



## **Piper To Retire as County Engineer after 40 Years of Service**

**For Immediate Release**

May 28, 2015

**Timothy J. Piper, P.E., P.S.**, announced today that he would be retiring from the office of Allen County Engineer on July 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. Piper graduated from Ohio Northern Engineering in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He was hired as a design engineer at the Allen County Engineer's office on July 14, 1975. In 1980, Piper obtained his Ohio's Professional Engineers (P.E.) license and in 1985 he obtained his Ohio's Professional Surveyors License (P.S.). During his first ten years of employment Piper designed over 50 bridges for Allen County. In 1980 he was put in charge of the annual county, township and village road programs, overseeing the paving and maintenance of hundreds of miles of roadways for the next 25 years. Piper was appointed as Chief Deputy Engineer in 1999 and was appointed as Allen County Engineer in September of 2005. He was elected to office in 2006 and was re-elected in 2008 and 2012.

Piper served as **President of the County Engineer's Association of Ohio** (CEAO) in 2013 and has served as co-chair of the CEAO Bridge Committee since 2005. He is past president of the Lima Society of Professional Engineers and the Treaty Lands Chapter of the Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio, Inc. He also has served as chairman of the Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission's Executive and Transportation Coordinating Committees.

During his tenure as county engineer, Piper noted some major accomplishments. The 3-1/2 mile stretch of **Eastown Road, Phases 1 through 3**, was rebuilt and widened at a total cost of \$15 million using federal and state grants. A \$1 million dollar Ohio Department of Development grant was used for rebuilding 1-1/4 miles of **Thayer Road** to accommodate the Procter and Gamble Transfer Center truck traffic. The **Metcalf Street Truss Bridge** in Lima was rehabilitated at a cost of \$2.5 million dollars with a 95% federal grant. Major ditch projects such as the **Flat Fork Creek, Pike Run and Lost Creek** were cleaned to improve drainage in Allen County and 203 miles of open ditches were maintained. Over **40 bridges and culverts** were built and **140 miles of county roads were paved and 300 miles were tarred and chipped**. The staff at the **Tax Map Office** has computerized the tax maps into a Geographic Information System, one of the best in Ohio. The tax map staff created the Allen County Road Maps and provided timely deed reviews. The engineer's office is currently working to replace the bridge on Shawnee Road and to install **the first road round-about to be constructed in west-central Ohio**, at the Shawnee and Ft. Amanda Roads intersection, to improve safety and facilitate better traffic flow.

Also during Piper's tenure as county engineer, **major safety upgrades** have been made at intersections and railroads by using high-intensity signing, highly visible pavement markings and **innovative ideas such as "blinking stop-signs" and reflective strips on sign-posts**. An effort has been made to eliminate sight obstructions at county road intersections. Grants have also been used to replace guardrail and to replace traffic signs and road name signs with highly visible signs. For the first time in Allen County, salt brine was used on county roads to help melt snow. To save taxpayers money, county mechanics have rebuilt trucks and equipment.

Piper stated "The men and women that make up the staff and crews at the Allen County Engineer's office are professional, hard-working individuals who take pride in the improvements and services which they provide to our citizens. I have been blessed to work with them for the past 40 years to serve the citizens of Allen County."

Piper resides in Elida and is married to wife, Corinne. They have three children, Jennifer, Aaron and Andrew and have five grandchildren.

*The Allen County Engineer's Office is responsible for the maintenance of Allen County's local highway system, which includes 352 miles of county roads and 550 miles of township roads. Also maintained are 378 bridges and over 1,400 culverts of various sizes. It also maintains 203 miles of petitioned ditches. The 12 townships and the county engineer cooperate in a working relationship that is unique in northwest Ohio. Roadside mowing, snow plowing, drainage improvements and road maintenance work is shared by the townships and the county engineer to give residents of Allen County the best use of their tax money.*