

DIVIDE COUNTY

Divide County with "surge funding" has bid one project. This project involves regrading a three mile section of County Road 2. This road needs to be paved but does not have the necessary width and 55 MPH sight lines for paving. This heavily travelled road connects with State Highway 5 leading to salt water disposals and oil distribution and US highway 85 coming from Williston. The Engineers estimate for this project was \$1.7 million and the bids were opened on August 18 with a total of 13 bidders. A bid of \$992,000 was accepted and an additional amount of \$79,000 will be added for Engineering.

The next project is regrading County 11 South from State Highway 5 for a total of 10 miles. We are planning to open bids on this project in March of 2016. This is a heavily travelled road that connects County 12 and 14. The Engineers estimate for this project is \$5.5 million and Engineering cost of \$440,000. This road also is too narrow to pave and does not have the required 55 MPH sight lines.

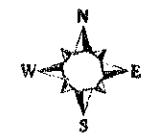
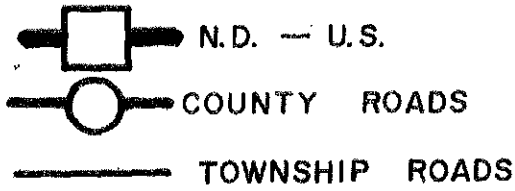
If the bids come in like County 2 we hope to have money left to regrade a section of County 14 leading from County 11 West to US Highway 85. This would provide connectivity as required for the funding. The estimate for this project is \$3.3 million plus \$264,000 for engineering.

In regard to challenges faced by the County, we need to expand our Courthouse due to the growth in Social Services, Sheriff's department, zoning and disaster emergency departments as well as bringing inhouse a full time States Attorney and staff. The estimate for this expansion is \$10.5 million. In anticipation we have put away \$2.5 million but will need to borrow the remaining \$8 million from the Bank of North Dakota. This brings up a point that the legislature needs to be aware of. Four of the five largest oil producing counties have found it necessary to obtain loans for courthouse expansion namely McKenzie, Mountrail, Williams, and Divide. These loans are due to the impact placed on our counties by oil.

Attached is a map showing the above projects.

DIVIDE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

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HIGHWAY MAP

\$ 1.00 PER MAP

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