



The MCRC and your Township officials will be happy to conduct an informational meeting for residents interested in obtaining a packet or to get more information on this process. Please contact your Township Clerk or the MCRC to set up a meeting, obtain more information, or receive a packet regarding Special Assessment Districts (SAD's).



*This brochure is meant to give the reader a general understanding of Special Assessment Districts (SAD). This brochure is not intended to provide all the detailed information on how to petition for a SAD in your township. If you have questions regarding SAD's in your area, please call our office.*



840 South Telegraph Road  
Monroe, MI 48161

## Understanding Special Assessment Districts



840 S. Telegraph  
Monroe, MI 48161  
Phone: (734) 240-5102  
Fax: (734) 240-5101  
Web: [www.mcrc-mi.org](http://www.mcrc-mi.org)  
Email: [mcrc@mcrc-mi.org](mailto:mcrc@mcrc-mi.org)

### ~Road Commission Leaders~

#### *Commissioners*

*Paul Iacoangeli*, Chairman  
*Dan Minton*, Vice Chairman  
*Charles A. Londo*, Member  
*Stephen J. Pace*, Member  
*Greg W. Stewart*, Member

#### *Staff*

*Randy D. Pierce*, Managing Director/Supt. Of Maintenance  
*Scott F. Assenmacher*, County Highway Engineer  
*Phillip C. Masserant*, Director of Finance  
*Keith C. Richard*, Director of Operations  
*Camden Regis*, Human Resource Director  
*Cheryl A. U'Ran*, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk

## Special Assessment Districts (S.A.D.) Funding Local Road Improvements



### MCRC FUNDS

The Monroe County Road Commission (MCRC) seeks diligently to provide creative funding to make the needed improvements to all public roads in Monroe County. The MCRC receives funds (gas taxes, vehicle registration fees, license fees) from the State through Public Act 51 for major improvements on county primary roads, but the share received for local roads is barely enough to do routine maintenance (pothole patching, shoulder work, snow removal). If major road improvement is done on local roads, it is paid for either by the Township or a shared contribution between the MCRC, Township and/or County.

### RECONSTRUCTING SUBDIVISION ROADS

Monroe County has many local roads that are in need of more than simple routine maintenance. Subdivision roads are classified as local roads, and most subdivision roads have not received major improvements (reconstruction) since they were installed.



County residents generally believe that the county road commission should pay for all road improvements. That concept is logical since the general public uses roadways. However, neither county road commissions nor township government receives sufficient funds for the reconstruction of subdivision roads. The cost of snow removal alone consumes a large portion of the money received for local roads.

### S.A.D. AS AN OPTION

When subdivision roads need reconstruction, the law allows for Township Special Assessment Districts (PA 188) to be used for funding these projects. Public Act 188 of 1954 gives property owners authority to petition their Township Board seeking road improvements. This process offers the petitioners:

- ◆The ability to set the boundaries of the district deciding the length of road they want to have improved and the number of properties they want to have assessed.

- ◆The ability to pay back the cost of the project over a number of years (the MCRC usually limits the payments to no more than 15 yrs).
- ◆The ability to require two Public Hearings to gather data & share their ideas for the scope and detail of the project.
- ◆The ability to receive a broad estimated cost of the project before making the final decision to proceed with the project.

### S.A.D. PROCEDURE PACKET

The MCRC has a packet for any property owner interested in beginning the S.A.D. process. The packet includes the detailed steps needed to initiate a S.A.D. Basically the process is:

- Property owners circulate a petition within the area to be improved to obtain property owner's signatures showing their interest in the improvement.
- Township conducts hearings to determine costs and scope.
- Property owners have input into the proposed improvements.
- Property owners agree to pay for the improvement over several years on their property taxes.

On subdivision roads this process is the only way to make the needed improvements to the road because there just is not enough money designated for local roads to be stretched to subdivisions.

