

New Year, New Roads

Allentown Road – This project was funded primarily by a federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant for \$453,600.00. The remainder of the approximately \$600,000 project was funded by Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds. As the grant name implies, this project was completed for the purpose of improving safety at the previously sharp turn where several severe accidents have occurred.

The road was completely reconstructed to respond to this safety need of the community. Changing the profile and alignment improved sight distances by making both the sharp curve and the hill more gradual. New asphalt shoulders keep the public safe by creating more room for driver error. The widened asphalt shoulder also doubles as a safer biking path for those using Allentown Road's connection to the Pekin Park District Multi-Use Trail!

Parkway Drive – Approximately 3.5 inches of old asphalt and chip seal were milled and removed from the dilapidated section of Parkway spanning between Willow and Lick Creek, exposing the full height of the curb. Then, two inches of new asphalt surface was overlaid onto the base of the street. Additional Curb repairs and sidewalk ramps at intersections were also added, as required by the federal ADA when completing a mill and overlay project.

Large sections of sidewalk were created between Willow and Sheridan to make the route safer and more accessible for pedestrians. Bright, inlaid tape was pressed down into the hot asphalt allowing the roadway to open quicker and have a more durable striping. Smoother manhole transitions completed the project. The Parkway Drive Project totaled \$1,480,828.79 with the cost of asphalt work amounting to \$1,130,667.29 and concrete work at the remaining \$350,161.50. The City combined multiple funding methods to complete this project, including: City of Pekin's Motor Fuel Tax (MFT), IDOT's Rebuild Illinois Capital Grant, and a Federal Surface Transportation Program grant.

South 5th Street – This project included asphalt resurfacing, sidewalk ramp upgrades, concrete curb repairs, and sidewalk repairs along South 5th Street between Washington and Derby. In 2020, the City also completed a sewer lining project along 5th Street to repair issues below the surface in advance of this project. A total of \$480,513.98 was invested into the 5th Street Project. The cost of the sidewalk and curb work was \$224,642.65, and the cost of the asphalt work was \$255,871.33. Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds were utilized to fund this project. This near half-million-dollar roadway project has helped to address major infrastructure concerns in the City's southside neighborhoods.