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BOONE COUNTY HIGHWAY

County to fix miles of roads

BY ROD ROSE
The Lebanon Reporter

About 31-1/2 miles of county roads, in 16 separate sections, are on a proposed maintenance list this year, Highway Superintendent Tom Kouns told the Boone County Commissioners Monday. The repairs will cost an estimated \$1.4 million.

The list could change, however. "We may have another road that will completely disintegrate," Kouns said.

It would take another \$3.1 million to repair all of the roads that Kouns would like to fix this year, but the county hasn't enough money. Kouns cut \$2 million from a wish list of projects, before submitting a \$2.5 million funding request to the county council in April.

The council gave Kouns \$1.5 million, plus \$150,000 in emergency funds to repair thaw-damaged roads, at its April 13 meeting. That's \$500,000 more for road maintenance than last year.

Half of this year's money will be spent on five "hot mix asphalt overlay" repaving projects: County Road 1100 East, from CR 200 S to Indiana 32; CR 1200 E, from CR 200 to Ind. 32; CR 800 S, from Moore Road to Ford Road; Colfax Road, from Ind. 47 to the Boone-Clinton county line; and CR 300 E, from CR 75 N to Ind. 32. Those projects cost \$706,210.

Hot mix asphalt is laid by machines; the material is heated to about 300 degrees F and then com-

pacted.

Another 14.7 miles will receive a chip-and-seal treatment - a layer of liquid asphalt, followed by a layer of gravel - at an estimated cost of \$147,410.

Those roads include CR 800 E, between CR 300 and 400 S; CR 750 S, between Ind. 267 and Whitestown; CR 750 S, between CR 500 W and Ind. 39; CR 200 N, between CR 75 and 500 W; CR 550 E and CR 900 E, between Ind. 47 and the Boone-Hamilton county

line; CR 1000 E, between CR 300 N and Ind. 38; CR 825 N, between Ind. 38 and CR 1200 E; and CR 150 N, between CR 200 E and John Bart Road.

The daily patching of potholes created by what Kouns has called the "one of the worst spring thaws ever" is separate from the maintenance program. Patching will be "a long process; it's very labor intensive," Kouns said.

His wish list plan would have repaved 15 roads, Kouns said.