

INTERESTING FACTS



How did *James R. Rakow* Road get its name?

The road is named after James R. Rakow, who was the McHenry County Superintendent of Highways/County Engineer for more than 24 years until 1993. He was instrumental in the planning, construction and replacement and expansion of many transportation projects in McHenry County - including the Pearl Street Bridge, the Rawson Road Bridge, the Charles Miller Bridge, the Randall Road north/south corridor, the Algonquin Road widening and the Western Algonquin Bypass. James Rakow also played a vital role in the planning and design for the road connecting Route 31 with Randall Road. His work was so appreciated that this road, James R. Rakow Road, was named in his honor. Mr. Rakow passed away in December 2010.

CONTACTS

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**PLEASE BE SAFE IN THE
CONSTRUCTION ZONE!**

Want more information on the
Rakow Road
Construction Project?

Visit the website at
www.rakowroad.com

- ◆ Project Updates
- ◆ Project Photos
- ◆ Email Notification



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McHENRY COUNTY
DIVISION OF
TRANSPORTATION

RAKOW ROAD CONSTRUCTION



Ackman Road to IL 31

For more information, please visit:
www.rakowroad.com

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Rakow Road Construction project is scheduled to begin in Spring 2011 and be completed with all new lanes open to traffic in late Fall 2012, weather permitting. The limits for the project include Rakow Road from south of Ackman Road to IL 31 - a length of just over three miles. There will be one lane of traffic in each direction open throughout the entire project. The widening of Rakow Road needs to be done because the amount of traffic using the road has grown tremendously. Adding new lanes will meet the current and future traffic demands.

Stage I of Rakow Road - SPRING 2011

The first stage will be to construct new traffic lanes to the east and south of the existing lanes - after temporary widening is installed on the west and north sides. Traffic will then be maintained on the widened existing pavement on the north and west lanes during this stage. Stage I construction is expected to be accomplished by Fall 2011, weather permitting.

WINTER SHUTDOWN

Striping and traffic control will be placed during this period of time.

Stage II of Rakow Road - SPRING 2012

Construction activities will resume Spring 2012. Traffic will be shifted to the newly constructed lanes and the old traffic lanes will be removed and replaced with new pavement. The final surface course of hot mix asphalt will be placed on the entire project. This will then be striped and traffic will be in the final configuration.

FAQs

Why is this work necessary?

The reconstruction and widening of Rakow Road is to improve safety and increase mobility by increasing its capacity along the corridor.

Will I still have access to my driveway during construction?

Yes, driveway access will be maintained throughout construction.

When will this project be finished?

All roadwork is expected to be completed by the end of 2012. Some landscaping may still need to be done in the spring of 2013.

Will traffic be severely disrupted?

No. Provisions have been made to maintain one lane of traffic in each direction for the duration of the project.

Will access to any businesses be closed during this construction?

No. Access to all local businesses will remain open.



Why don't I see construction activity when I drive by?

The normal construction day is between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm. Workers may be out later depending on what they are working on.

What can I do to help make the project successful?

Watch out for workers and flaggers. Be patient and considerate of other motorists. Please be safe in the work zones and do not drive distracted.

Will any of my utilities be shut off during this project?

The possibility for minor interruptions of service exists, but these should be minimal.

Why do they spray oil on the road before they place the asphalt?

The oil helps the new asphalt layer bond to the concrete or asphalt layer below it.

Why are the lane strips and pavement markings not being painted on?

The County is using pre-formed marking tape. The letters and symbols either get pressed into the hot asphalt by rollers, making it more durable than paint products, or a grooved surface is created along the lane lines to "hold" the tape for durability and to avoid damage from snow plows.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch with one of the contacts listed in this brochure or *check out the website.*