

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

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Road Commission brings both classic horse-drawn, and high tech horsepower, road machines to Back to the Bricks

Flint, Michigan. ---

The Genesee County Road Commission is pleased to announce that it will be participating in a really big way in Flint's Back to the Bricks Cruise Week, August 16-20, 2011. The Road Commission is planning "a multifaceted, interactive family fun exhibit featuring truly classic turn of the century equipment as well as 21st century cutting edge, joystick-controlled, laser-guided, GPS-navigated 'WOW' machines!" (more commonly called snow plows and road graders). Generous sponsorship by its Associate Sponsors Michigan CAT and Chase Bank is making it possible for the Road Commission to bring a truly unique exhibit to what has become one of the largest cruise events in the Midwest. Road Commission Manager-Director John Daly sees this as a great opportunity to show the motoring public an aspect of the Road Commission they might not have considered, and perhaps update their perception of the agency in the process. "People see us filling potholes, fixing roads, plowing snow and that sort of thing, but they might not realize that in the 102 years that we have been serving the motorists of Genesee County we have gotten pretty sophisticated in the equipment we use and the training we require. This exhibit will allow us to show this to people in a fun, 'up close and personal' kind of way. We see ourselves as partners in this community and are very pleased to be able to participate in this phenomenal event."

He is quick to point out that no public funds have been used in this effort. “We’re a public agency. As worthwhile as Back to the Bricks is, we can’t spend public money on it. Without the generous sponsorship dollars of Michigan CAT, our largest equipment vendor, and Chase Bank, our financial vendor, and the in-kind contributions of other Road Commission business partners our involvement in Back to the Bricks simply would not be possible.”

Steve Casner, MEGA Site Coordinator for Back to the Bricks, called the Road Commission’s proposed display “one of the most exciting exhibits the Committee has seen”. Bringing in these fancy, high tech road maintenance machines, alongside their historical equipment and putting together this family-oriented, ‘hands on’ kind of display really adds a new dimension to Back to the Bricks. With all that and the pins and tattoos and other give-aways they’ve got this could be fun for everybody - families, kids, as well as classic equipment and technology buffs. I’m looking forward to driving that grader simulator!”

Road Commission equipment and staff will be at each of the main Back to the Brick venues, including the Brix Flix movie at US-23 Drive-in on Tuesday August 16th, the ‘MEGA Site’ at corner of Saginaw and Atherton Roads for the Rolling Cruise Wednesday the 17th and Thursday the 18th, (and where they will be flanked by “Big Daddy” Don Garlits and multi-million dollar Auburns, Packards and Cords), and at the big event on the bricks downtown at the corner of Saginaw and Court Street all day Saturday the 20th. They will be joined downtown by members of the Michigan Snowmobile Association and their world record setting sleds.

The Road Commission has also invited their counterparts from all 82 other road commissions around the state to join them at the exhibit they call “a celebration of road

commissions' progress from horse-drawn beginnings to high tech, high skilled partners in the community". And they invite everyone to stop by and say hi!

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