

Spring 2020 INFORMATION MEMO TO RESIDENTS OF SRD#8

Each year, the Special Road District #8 receives about \$69,000 in tax money. This money is to “maintain and improve” the roads in our district. In order for us to continue to do dust abatement, we would have to increase our income in some manner. We are working towards a more long-term solution.

For several years this money has covered grading (usually Spring and Fall), snow plowing and dust abatement for East/West roads only. *Dust abatement goes up every year by about 10%*. No money is left for gravel and alignment which is required to “maintain” or “improve” the roads.

Here’s a look at the finances for calendar year 2019

Income: \$69,000

Dust Abatement: \$53,000 (about 77% of our 2019 budget)

Snow Plowing: \$4,955

Grading: \$3,118

Other (insurance, office expenses, etc.): \$2,300

This year the Board decided to try something different. We would like to put down something called Otta Seal (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otta_seal http://www.dot.state.mn.us/materials/bituminousdocs/Pavement%20Maintenance/OttaSeal_4-pagerMRR_2008.pdf) to improve the roads in a more permanent manner.

Currently our tax rate is 1.6239 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This rate was fixed in 1997 and cannot be increased. So in order to pay for the road improvements, we will refrain from laying down dust abatement and will look into getting a loan for the Otta Seal improvements.

If you would like to comment on this process during this Covid 19 social distancing or to ask a question, please leave a message on our “Contact Us” page or email us at: SpecialRD8@gmail.com