

Michigan's Shortest Highway Gets an Overhaul



Project: Complete road reconstruction
Challenge: Poor subsoils
Solution: Floating road system

OWNER: MDOT M-168

CONTRACT PRICE: \$1,837,908

DESIGN ENGINEER: MDOT

CONTACT: Judy K. Browning (231) 941-1986

LOCATION: Village of Elberta, Michigan

DATE COMPLETED: June - October, 2010

SELF-PERFORMED: 80%

PARTNERS:

Concrete Curb, Walks and Decorative Concrete: Rieth-Riley

Street Lighting: Zimmerman Electric

Landscaping: Expo Landscaping

Video Inspection: PCS

Traffic Control Devices: Give-em-a-Break Safety

Painting: Kenmark

Guardrail Installation: J&J

Here's some trivia: what was formerly Michigan's shortest State Highway? Hint: It's right here in northern Michigan, and thanks to some recent major improvements by Team Elmer's, the road was turned over to the local municipality in November 2010 and is no longer a part of the State Highway system.

The answer is Elberta's own M-168, which runs along the Betsie Lakefront, across the water from downtown Frankfort.

Team Elmer's completed reconstruction of the .93-mile road, including a complex and meticulously timed, seven-staged process that had to ensure all businesses and homes remained open throughout. The overall project included removal of existing concrete, storm sewer, geotextile stabilization, open graded underdrains, milling, concrete curbs and walks, retaining walls and decorative concrete, streetscape lighting, gravel and asphalt paving, including a section with a crack relief layer where concrete could not be removed.

The successful work ensured a successful transition of the short roadway from the highway system to the Village of Elberta... and the end of a trivia answer!

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