

Community Information Notice

Infrastructure Survey Vehicle Observed in Our Neighborhood

Issued: June 2026

About the Vehicle Observed in Our Neighborhood

Some residents have recently noticed a van labeled "**ARA Infrastructure Assessment Vehicle**" traveling slowly through Bruce Meadows. The HOA would like to share some general background information about this type of vehicle for those who may be curious.

ARA (Applied Research Associates) is a professional engineering firm that is sometimes contracted by government agencies to conduct road and infrastructure condition surveys. Their vehicles use non-invasive scanning technology — no digging or disruption to property is involved.

This type of van is typically equipped with:

- **LiDAR** — laser scanning to precisely map road surface conditions
- **Ground-penetrating radar** — identifies underground utility and subsurface issues
- **High-resolution cameras** — documents visible pavement wear and cracking
- **Pavement condition sensors** — measures structural integrity of the road

Data collected by these vehicles is typically compiled into condition reports that government agencies may use to help evaluate and prioritize road maintenance and funding decisions.

What Might This Mean for Our Community?

At this time, the HOA has no specific information about why this survey vehicle was present in our neighborhood, or whether any road work is being planned. The purpose of this notice is simply to share general background, not to suggest that any particular action or project is underway.

It is worth noting that our street serves as a **bus route**, which can mean higher levels of traffic wear over time. Infrastructure surveys of this kind are a standard tool used by counties and municipalities to assess road conditions on an ongoing basis. Whether or not any follow-up action results from a survey depends entirely on the findings, available funding, and local government priorities.

General Information: How Road Funding Works in Michigan

For informational purposes, road projects in Michigan are typically funded through a combination of the following sources:

- **State gas tax / Act 51 funds** — distributed to counties and townships for road work

- **Federal transportation dollars** — especially available for roads serving public transit routes
- **Macomb County Department of Roads (MCDR) budget** — county-managed project funds
- **Special Assessment Districts (SAD)** — a portion billed directly to affected residents

About Special Assessment Districts: In some cases, Michigan law permits municipalities to establish a Special Assessment District (SAD) for road reconstruction projects. Under this arrangement, a portion of the project cost may be billed to property owners on the affected street over a period of years through their property tax. This is more commonly associated with full road reconstruction than routine maintenance. This is provided as general background information only, and does not reflect any known or planned action in our neighborhood.

Roads that serve public transit routes may be eligible for federal and state transit-related infrastructure funding, which can influence how project costs are distributed. Residents interested in learning more are encouraged to reach out directly to the contacts listed below.

If You Would Like to Learn More

Residents who are curious about the survey or road conditions in our area are welcome to reach out to the appropriate agencies directly. The contacts listed at the end of this notice are the best starting points. Below are some suggested approaches for those who wish to inquire further.

Inquiry 1 — Macomb County Department of Roads (MCDR)

MCDR is the most direct source of information about road assessments and any projects that may be planned in our area. Residents may contact them to ask whether a survey was recently conducted on our street, whether any road projects are currently being considered, and whether any public meetings are planned to discuss road work in the area.

Inquiry 2 — Washington Township Trustees

Township Trustees are elected local representatives who can help residents understand what, if any, plans exist for local road improvements. They can also provide guidance on how funding decisions are made and what options may be available to the community.

Inquiry 3 — Your State Representative

Michigan's Act 51 law governs how state gas tax revenue is distributed for road maintenance and repair. Residents interested in how state funding is allocated may wish to reach out to their state representative. You can find your representative at Michigan.gov.

Inquiry 4 — MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation)

Residents interested in federal or state transit-related road funding may contact MDOT's Metro Region office. Because our street serves as a bus route, it may fall within the scope of programs they administer, and they can provide general guidance on applicable funding programs.

Inquiry 5 — Public Meetings

MCDR and local government agencies occasionally hold public meetings or comment periods related to road planning. Residents interested in staying informed may wish to monitor local announcements for any such opportunities in our area.

The Bruce Meadows HOA will share any additional information with residents as it becomes available. This notice is intended solely as general community information based on the observation of the survey vehicle in our neighborhood. No conclusions about planned road work or costs should be drawn from this notice at this time.

Key Contacts at a Glance

Agency / Office	Phone	Email / Website
Macomb County Dept. of Roads (MCDR)	(586) 463-8671	geninfo@rcmcweb.org
MCDR Website / Project Info		roads.macombgov.org
MCDR Online Request Form		macombgov.org/departments/ department-roads/request-assistance
MDOT Metro Region	(248) 483-5100	mdot@michigan.gov
Find Your State Representative		michigan.gov/sos/elections/ voter-information