

Pavement Management & Roadway Rehabilitation

Town Meeting 9/3/25 and Referendum 9/16/25

Background

The Town of East Haddam is responsible for maintaining a roadway network that promotes safe travel, economic activity, and the delivery of emergency and public services. To better understand the condition of its roads, the Town commissioned BETA Group, Inc. to conduct a comprehensive pavement management study covering all town-maintained roadways and certain privately owned roads where the Town provides plowing services.

Utilizing GIS-based and image-assisted inspections powered by machine learning, this study represents the Town's first holistic, data-driven assessment of its roadway conditions. The results provide an objective framework for capital planning, repair prioritization, and sustainable long-term investment.

Key Findings

The study rated pavement conditions using the Roadway Surface Rating (RSR) scale (0–100), where higher scores indicate better pavement health.

- **Average Network RSR:** 59.27 (Fair to Poor condition)
- **Total Network Size:** 1,082,000+ square yards
- **Roads in Major Rehabilitation Need (RSR < 50):** 37.5%
- **Roads Requiring No Maintenance:** Only 7.4%
- **Estimated Cost to Restore All Roads to Good/Excellent Condition:** \$25.2 million
(Excludes sidewalks, drainage, and utility upgrades)

Repair Needs by Category

Repair Category	RSR Range	Estimated Cost	% of Roads
Major Rehabilitation	0–50	\$19.8 M	37.57%
Minor Rehabilitation	50–65	\$2.77 M	13.79%
Preventative Maintenance	65–80	\$2.52 M	24.23%
Routine Maintenance	80–92	\$171,975	16.99%
No Maintenance	92–100	\$0	7.42%

Proposed Solution

The pavement management study provided a **data-driven roadmap** for restoring and preserving the Town's roadway infrastructure. Key recommendations were as follows:

- **5-Year Forecast Model:** Guiding annual investments between \$400,000 and \$2.25 million to balance more immediate repairs with ongoing preventative maintenance.
- **Technology Deployment:** Utilizing the **ManageMyRoads GIS platform** for continuous monitoring and decision-making.
- **Capital Planning:** Developing a **5–10 year road improvement plan** tied to available funding.
- **Funding Strategy:** Establishing sustainable and diversified funding sources to ensure consistent investment.

The bond resolution for this project authorizes an appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the pavement, repair and/or reconstruction of town roads selected by the Public Works Department in accordance with the recommendations of the BETA Group study and the issuance of bonds and notes up to such amount.