

ROADS

Amador County has 409 miles of County-maintained roads, with the highest mileage contained within District 5. Keeping up with road maintenance needs is an ongoing challenge, given the County's annual budget and availability feasible grants.

Brian Oneto has consistently worked to cut excessive spending and secure State and Federal grants to meet the needs for county road work. Despite his efforts, the county budget is now in crisis, and the road maintenance backlog remains a challenge.

Throughout his tenure on the Board, Brian has advocated, negotiated and overseen State and Federal funding for all of the following projects, and more:

New 2026 major road projects Brian has secured:

- 1) Fiddletown Road, full-depth reclamation and paving from Hale Road down about 1.16 miles towards Fiddletown.
Funded: \$880,000; bid awarded, construction starting in May.
- 2) Shake Ridge and Fiddletown Road intersection to Allan Road West.
Paving. Funded: \$1,540,000; Bid process in the summer of 2026.
- 3) The Pine Grove Project. Began over 20 years ago (before Brian was a supervisor) to improve the intersection and other areas of Hwy. 88 by the Pine Grove Elementary School, construction has finally begun this year. The original price tag of \$143 million was reduced to \$7,500,000 million by Supervisors John Plasse and Brian Oneto by reducing and eliminating unnecessary components. For example, the project initially made Amador County responsible for paving State Highway 88, which is not the county's responsibility.

Construction has recently begun, at a cost of \$6,279,436 million, from State and County funding.

- 4) Paving Michigan Bar Road from Hwy 104 to the County Line. \$1,314,000. 2027 Project
- 5) After years of effort by Brian, Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) has received a commitment from CalTrans for a safety project widening the dangerous section of Highway 49 between Drytown and the stop light at Highway 16. The lack of shoulders and narrow lanes have contributed to numerous wrecks in this section of road.

Major road project Brian secured in 2025:

Ridge Road: Brian worked with State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil to acquire a \$2.3 million State Budget Allocation to pave Upper Ridge Road, remainder of funding will be used to repair lower Ridge Road.

Past accomplishments completed with Highway Safety Improvement Program funds (HSIP):

- New York Ranch Road Intersection
- Construction turnouts for Jackson Valley Road/Shake Ridge Road & Shenandoah Road
- Shenandoah Road/Fiddletown Intersection
- Eleven signalized intersections in Amador County
- State Route 88/Court Street Deceleration & Acceleration turn lanes
- State Route 49 from SR88 East to Clinton Road – street lighting
- State Route 49/Main Streete Plymouth Roundabout
- Intersection Realignment of Ridge Road approx. 1 mile East of SR104 and SR49

These projects ranged from 3 to 15 years each to complete, averaging 7 years, not including planning before submitting the projects to the State. In California, the bureaucracy of modern State government requires a great deal of patience and persistence.

Over 50% of the HSIP projects are within District 5.

NOTE: Obtaining HSIP funds does not mean the project is completely funded; often it is not, leaving the balance to county taxpayers.

New Federal Highway Bridge Program replacements projects ongoing:

- Carbondale bridge (recently completed)*
- Fiddletown Road Bridge, built 1923 (Upper end of Fiddletown)
- Old Amador Road Bridge, built 1925
- Bell Road Bridge, built 1925

*NOTE: Federal bridge projects must be built to Federal requirements making them large, expensive and causing long completion times. For example, the recent Carbondale Bridge replacement was over-designed, extremely expensive, and took seemingly forever to complete. This trade-off is to be expected when the County accepts Federal funding.

Some Past Completed Road Projects:

- With acknowledgement to State Senator Maria Alvarado-Gil, Upper Ridge Road Improvement Project, acquired \$2.3 million in state funding.
- Martin Lane paved
- Slope Stabilization Project
- 2024 Dig-Outs Project
- Main Street and Spanish Street (Drytown) Paving Project
- Shenandoah Road Rehabilitation and paving project
- Buena Vista Road Paving Project
- County Roads Dig-Outs, Shake Ridge Road

- County Roads Dig-Outs, West
- Willow Creek Road Paving Project
- Camanche Road Repair Project
- County Road Dig-Outs, Fiddletown Road
- Pioneer Creek Road Storm Damage Repairs
- County Road Dig-Outs, Buckhorn Ridge Road and Pioneer Volcano Road
- County Road Dig-Outs, Buena Vista Road and Stony Creek Road
- Ridge Road/New York Ranch Road Intersection Improvements
- Countywide Turnouts / Widen Shoulders Project
- Repair of recent slide on Upper Ridge Road
- ... and more

Brian continues to seek all *feasible* solutions for fixing our roads:

Recently, approximately 9 months ago, Brian Oneto worked on the acquisition of a new self-propelled asphalt paver, roller, and striping machine to repair roads faster and better. This project was funded by the Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC), which Brian is on the board of. This was done in a cooperative effort by the cities, the county and ACTC.

New pilot paving projects to train county crews on this new equipment:

- 1) Raggio Road – currently being paved
- 2) Barney Road – is up next
- 3) A section French Bar Road

Local Road Funding:

Through local funding, on-going road maintenance activities include patching, dig-out, culvert replacements, brushing, snow removal, and more.