

Miss: A 'D' grade for Michigan roads

Several readers mentioned that the only surprise in the "D" grade given to Michigan's roads by the American Society of Civil Engineers is that the state didn't get an "F." Our state's transportation system is bad and getting worse, with 10,000 miles of road deteriorating from "good" or "fair" to "poor" from 2004 to 2007. The report came just before a package of bills was introduced in the Legislature to raise more money for road work by increasing the state's gasoline tax from 19 cents a gallon to as much as 34 cents and sharply raising vehicle-registration fees. We'll be very interested to see how this proposal fares in the Legislature and if Michigan drivers are willing to pay more to get a better report card for their roads.