

### Thomas A. Palarz, P.E.

Mr. Palarz has recently completed a 33 year career with the Ottawa County Road Commission which included 2 years as Assistant Bridge Engineer, 13 years as Traffic and Planning Engineer, and, most recently, 18 years as Engineering Director. His experience in highway engineering is considerable and extends to planning, project development and design, right-of-way acquisition, management, and administration. In addition to providing professional and managerial services in acquisition of right-of-way and easements for various public works projects, Mr. Palarz will work to insure that Land Matters, LLC maintains an excellent working relationship with all public agencies and clients.

#### Education

B.S. Civil Engineering - Michigan Technological University

#### Certification

Professional Engineer - State of Michigan & State of Illinois

#### Representative Projects

##### Land Matters LLC

- ▶ Forest Hill & Crahen Avenue Bike Path - Grand Rapids Township

Preparation and acquisition of bike path easements, grading permits, purchase agreements, and legal descriptions including plan review, coordination with Township, Engineer, and Surveyor for easement acquisition and access rights, and meetings and negotiations with property owners. (23 Parcels)

- ▶ 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road Widening and Sidewalk - Ottawa County Road Commission and Georgetown Township

Preparation and acquisition of quit claim deeds, grading permits, purchase agreements, and legal descriptions including plan review, coordination with Road Commission and Township regarding design issues and concerns, and meetings and negotiations with property owners. (74 Parcels)

##### Ottawa County Road Commission Projects

- ▶ River Avenue Bridge Replacement Projects

Projects consisted of construction of east side pedestrian bridge, temporary vehicular bridge, 6 lane vehicular bridge, and west side pedestrian bridge and included City of Holland and Holland Charter Township as additional owners. Permanent right-of-way and temporary grading easements were obtained from several commercial properties. Funding was secured from three federal aid programs, four local governmental units, as well as private donations. Project development required considerable coordination with owners, engineering consultants, contractors, utilities, property owners, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Corps of Engineers. Overall project was completed on time and within budget.

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- ▶ 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Reconstruction Project

Project consisted of reconstructing an existing 2 lane road to provide a 3 lane pavement with center lane for left turns while providing adequate grade width to accommodate a future 5 lane roadway. Due to surrounding topography, design of vertical alignment was critical in minimizing impacts to adjacent properties and environmental resources. Project was funded by federal aid funds and local match. Right-of-way acquisition included partial takes and grading easements on 47 parcels.

- ▶ Baldwin Street Project

Project consisted of widening and reconstructing the existing 4 lane roadway to provide a 5 lane pavement (center lane for left turns) with concrete curb and gutter and replacement of 5 foot concrete sidewalks on both sides. Right-of-way acquisition included partial takes on 104 parcels. Traffic was maintained during construction.