



Street Sealing Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



#1) What is “Street Sealing”?

Street Sealing is a process where a diluted asphalt product is sprayed on the surface of an asphalt road to rejuvenate the old, weathered surface and seal minor cracks and voids to keep water from getting into the asphalt. This is like sealing a wooden deck from water or painting wood siding on a house to protect from water. Street Sealing is performed on asphalt streets that are otherwise in good condition to maintain and lengthen the service life of the street.

#2) What is the City spraying on my street?

The City uses an environmentally friendly, water-based, diluted asphalt emulsion. It is a specially formulated emulsion product combining liquid asphalt, a tough polymer to seal and protect, along with a rejuvenation agent to restore oxidized and brittle pavement surfaces.

#3) How will the work be performed?

The Street Sealing product is applied with an asphalt spray truck. Typically, the truck will spray one side of the street, wait until the product has set, then spray the other side of the street. During the set time, the lane recently sprayed will be coned off and “Fresh Emulsion” signs will be placed to warn drivers. The set time is usually between 1-2 hours, weather dependent.

#4) How long is this street sealing project going to take to complete?

The process normally takes 2-4 hours per street. A neighborhood street sealing project could range in time to complete from 1 – 2 weeks depending on the number of streets to be sealed within the neighborhood. Also the schedule is dependent on weather and other unforeseen issues.

#5) Will I be notified before the work begins?

Flyers are distributed about 72 hours before sealing begins. The flyers provide estimated timeframes and contact information.

#6) How long will the sealed surface last?

This treatment is expected to provide a minimum effective life of three to five years, while some sealing can last as much as 7 years.

#7) What if I accidentally drive on the sealed surface before it is set?

Should you drive on the surface before the cones are removed, you will most likely get some of the emulsion product on your wheels and/or car. However, the product used by the City can be removed with a little WD 40, which can be purchased at any local hardware store or home center. Also, you can call the contact number on

the distributed flyer to arrange for someone to come clean the product off your car. Or you can call 311 to report the problem and ask the operator to refer your request to the “PWE Street and Drainage Division.”

#8) What if some of the sealing product gets on my driveway?

If some of the emulsion product is tracked onto your driveway, please feel free to report that by using the contact number on the distributed flyer. The driveway will be cleaned and the product removed. Or you can call 311 to report the problem and ask the operator to refer your request to the “PWE Street and Drainage Division.”

#9) Where to call to report problems?

Before each seal project, flyers are distributed to the residents. These will have information about the seal schedule and provide contact information. In addition, you can also Dial 311 to report your problem. Please mention to the operator that you are calling about a residential street seal and please refer this problem to the “PWE Street and Drainage Division”.

#10) What to do if you have special needs?

If you have special needs, please call the contact information provided on the flyers or Dial 311 and ask the operator to refer your request to the “PWE Street and Drainage Division.” You will be asked to fill-out a *Special Needs Form* which will alert the project manager over the seal project.

#11) On streets getting a street seal, what is the procedure for trash and recycling pick up?

During the seal process, crews are made aware of the trash pickup schedule for your neighborhood and will flag down the trash truck and ask them to pick up trash before sealing occurs. Please put your receptacles out as usual.

#12) At some point, will I have issues parking in my driveway or garage?

During this street sealing process, access to driveways will be maintained as best as possible for personal access. On some days, you may be asked to park nearby, but this usually only occurs on specific days that specific work is in front of, or blocking a given driveway at a given time. Naturally, rain and weather will have some impacts on these occurrences.

#13) What about any school bus that typically drives on the affected streets?

The City will work with the schools and bus routes.