

Microsurfacing FAQ's

What is Microsurfacing?

Microsurfacing is a thin surface wearing treatment that involves laying a mixture of dense-graded aggregate, asphalt emulsion, water, polymer additive, and mineral fillers to correct or prevent certain deficiencies in pavement conditions. Microsurfacing primarily used to extend pavement life by sealing any cracks in the pavement surface. This also improves surface friction and corrects rutting.

How long will my street be closed?

There may be parking restrictions and road closures *the entire day* the work is scheduled. Once placed, microsurfacing requires at least 1-2 hours to set or harden before the road can be opened to traffic. Weather conditions and/or turning movements (non-turning traffic has less of an impact) can extend this curing time up to 4 hours or more.

What should the residents do to prepare for their streets to be microsurfaced?

Residents will be notified in advance. On the day the street is scheduled for microsurfacing, the residents will be required to remove all personal items from the roadway (vehicles, trash cans, basketball nets, etc.). Residents will need to park their car on an adjacent street that will be scheduled in advance. All sprinkler systems will be required to be turned off that day.

How soon till I can walk on the street?

Pedestrians should keep off the street until the roadway has had the required cure time to set and harden. A good indication is after you see the material turn from its applied color of brown, to its cured rich black color. Be aware that "wet" microsurfacing is "tacky" and is difficult to remove from clothing and fur. The final product provides a finished surface that is black in color and looks similar to that of an asphalt surface.

Why does the street seem rough?

A piece of thick rubber is dragged behind the paver during the application process to give the microsurfacing its desired texture. During this process the rubber pulls a small amount of the aggregate to the surface of the material, which gives it an initial coarse appearance. Over the next few weeks traffic will do its job of rolling down that aggregate and smoothing the surface. Be aware that the texture is not exactly that of new asphalt. When complete, your roads will be protected with a strong, less expensive, wearing coarse with improved skid resistance, to provide a safer driving environment.

A resident turned out of their driveway and it left a mark.

When microsurfacing is first placed, the surface is tender and can be marked up by sudden turning movements. Do not worry, these imperfections on the pavement are temporary as seasonal weather and traffic will smooth out these imperfections over time.

Is the microsurfacing hot?

One of the many benefits to microsurfacing is that NO it is not hot! Because of the improved polymer modified binders used in the product, heat is not needed to produce this special mix. Therefore microsurfacing is an environmentally friendly process that cuts down carbon emissions and allows for reduced energy consumption!