



Si necesita esta información en Español, llame al 303-651-8416.

Dear Resident,

As part of the City of Longmont's annual Pavement Management Program, 9th Avenue from Hover Street to Coffman Street has been selected to receive a preventative maintenance treatment called a chip seal. This program is funded by the City's voter-approved, ¾-cent Street Fund sales and use tax to help maintain Longmont's streets for a safe and efficient transportation system. The chip seal application will be performed by contractors working for the City under the supervision of a City inspection team. Please read below for more information about a chip seal.

In addition, this segment of 9th Avenue is scheduled to receive striping changes in late summer, alongside the chip seal treatment. This is a continuation of the improvements completed in August of 2020 on 9th Avenue from Airport Road to Hover Street. The new striping will improve multimodal transportation access as well as vehicular, cyclist and pedestrian safety. Improvements include a reduction of existing lane widths and the addition of bike lanes, center lanes, a median and turning lanes. The removal of on-street parking will also be required in some areas. A public meeting will be scheduled in the late spring or early summer to provide more information on the project and you will receive a follow-up communication with the details of that meeting once scheduled.

What is a chip seal and why is it used?

Chip sealing is a preventive maintenance treatment that consists of the application of crushed aggregate or gravel (chips) over an emulsified asphaltic oil. A chip seal is applied to streets that are in relatively good condition but have begun to deteriorate. Chip sealing is a cost effective method used to prolong the useful life of the street and delay more expensive types of rehabilitation.

How is chip seal applied?

1. Preparatory Work, Crack Sealing – Scheduled for April/May

First, the road is prepared for chip seal by filling and sealing any cracks using an asphalt-based tar material. Crack sealing typically occurs a couple of months in advance of the actual chip seal application. Additional information is provided on the back of this letter to describe what to expect during crack sealing operations.

2. Chip Seal, Phase 1 - Scheduled for July/August/September

Once chip seal activities begin, streets will be swept to remove any vegetation and debris followed by the application of asphaltic material and placement of aggregate. This process does not require a full street closure but may result in temporary delays. All vehicles must be removed from the street during this work.

3. Chip Seal, Phase 2 - Scheduled for July/August/September

After the initial chip seal application has set, any loose chip material will be swept and an additional thin asphalt layer will be applied to finalize the treatment.

Tips for Residents: Chip Seal Operations

- Prior to the start of construction, informational flyers will be distributed to all residences and businesses informing them when construction is expected to start.
- "No Parking" signs or construction cones/barricades will be placed at least 48 hours prior to any work.

- The chip seal work will be completed between July and September of this year.
- Access to residences and businesses will remain open.
- Your residential trash service schedule will remain unchanged during construction.

Preparatory Crack Seal Treatment

1. What Does It Accomplish?

Cracks develop over time in asphalt pavement surfaces due to a number of factors, including pavement age, traffic loading, and seasonal temperature fluctuations. In order to attain the maximum life for a section of pavement, it is important to prevent water from entering these cracks. By inhibiting water intrusion, the pavement is less vulnerable to further sub-surface deterioration.

2. When Is It Performed?

Asphalt surfaces contract when temperatures are low, and expand when temperatures are warm. Therefore, cracks are at their widest and most visible during the cold months of the year. Obviously, crack sealing cannot occur when snow is present, so the City contracts to have this work completed each year in early weeks of spring and late fall.

3. How Is It Done?

Crack sealing is performed by cleaning the cracks with compressed air and filling the crack with an asphalt-based tar material. The material has the consistency of thick syrup, which allows it to spread within the crack as it fills it. The crack sealant cures as it cools, providing a barrier against water intrusion.

Tips for Residents: Crack Seal Operations

- Your residential trash service schedule will remain unchanged during construction.
- “No Parking” signs will be installed along your street approximately two days prior to the start of the work.
- The work will typically be performed between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Overnight parking along the street is allowable, and will not interfere with treatment operations.
- The crack sealant material can be driven over within a few minutes of application.
- Dust and debris may be inadvertently spread over sidewalks and driveways. Any such debris will be blown back into the roadway following the sealing application (the same day). All roadways that have been sealed will be swept by the end of the week.

Learn more about the Pavement Management Program at www.LongmontColorado.gov/PMP

Contact Information: Questions regarding the chip seal operation and the lane striping project should be directed as follows:

Chip Seal Operation

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Lane Striping Project

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