



Director of Public Works

RE: Your Levy, Your Money, Your Roads - Part II

Dear Teton County,

Voters approved a Special Tax Levy for Roads and Bridges in May of 2010. Although the long spring and high runoff delayed our construction season, now is when you reap the rewards of your vote. My last update touched on Dust Abatement and Gravel, this week I will expand on road resurfacing.

Chip Seal - What, Where, & Why

Teton County has teamed with Gal Lim Construction to resurface 9 miles of roadways with a chip seal. Chip sealing consists of spraying a thin layer of liquid asphalt onto the road surface, followed by a layer of crushed rock which binds to the asphalt. A rubber tire roller then embeds the rock into the liquid asphalt. Three to four days later the road is swept to remove the excess rock. A chip seal prevents water from infiltrating the road and degrading the base, it also provides a hard, skid resistant, wearing surface that extends the life of the asphalt.

Teton County has not chip sealed a road in many years due to the increasing cost of liquid asphalt. The majority of our paved roads are chip sealed roads. A chip seal is approximately one fourth the cost of a conventional asphalt overlay. Our county staff and equipment will assist Gal Lim Construction to reduce the costs and efficiently spend your levy funds.

The following roadways will be chip sealed this week:

Ski Hill Road from 5th Street to Stateline Road: Teton County & the City of Driggs have teamed up to chip seal Ski Hill Road. We have worked with the cyclist community to design a surface that works for cyclists and vehicles. The design includes a smaller 3/8" chip along with a fog seal over the chips to help bind everything together. The road will then be restriped. We will alter the traffic pattern in the upcoming weeks to further bind the chips into the road surface.

E2500N from Hwy 33 to Stateline Road (Hastings Lane): The eastern portion of E2500N is currently surfaced with the recycled asphalt from the Driggs Airport. This section will receive a chip seal surface this year and again in 2012 to built up the asphalt base. The remaining section of road will only receive a chip seal this year, as it currently has an adequate base.

W4000N first 2 miles (Packsaddle Road): Although this section of road was rebuilt 2 years ago, the coarse, open surface needs to be sealed to prevent water from infiltrating the base. Additionally, the first 600 feet will be reconstructed to Hwy 33 by Teton County and Idaho Transportation Department.

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Cedron Road at 4000S: Approximately 1 mile of roadway was completely rebuilt and resurfaced with recycled asphalt (see above). Sealing this section will complete the paved southwestern loop around the valley.

You can expect loose rock on the road for a few days after chip sealing. Please drive slowly (15mph) to avoid kicking up loose rock and asphalt. Road & Bridge Crews will be sweeping roads to remove excess rocks. Motorcycles and cyclists should use caution and avoid newly chip sealed roads until they are swept.

Although this construction may be inconvenient please be patient and remember that Road & Bridge crews are working to make your roads smoother, safer, and longer lasting. When you see them working on your road, slow down and give them a wave and a smile.

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