

Road maintenance can take a number of forms, but all share the same end goal: to keep roads as close to their original condition as possible. In many ways, the aim of maintenance is prevention — to keep minor defects from developing into major ones. Preventative maintenance is a must if you want your roads to remain safe or get safer.

The District has over the past five years performed a comprehensive study which identified and classified the condition of our roads and concrete curbs. Using that study, we used either “mill and overlay” or “slurry seal” as a way to extend the life of our streets.

1. “mill & overlay” is a street maintenance technique that requires the removal of the top layer (2") of a street by the grinding action of a large milling machine. After the top layer is removed, a new layer of bituminous pavement is put in its place. This process consists of two major steps: 1) milling the street and 2) laying the new asphalt (overlay).
2. “slurry seal” is a cold mix paving system that can remedy a broad range of problems on streets, airfields, parking lots, and driveways. The principal materials used to create slurry are aggregate, asphalt emulsion, and fillers which are mixed together according to a laboratory’s mix design formula.

Routine Maintenance

The District performed “crack seal” to streets as a way to extend the life of our newly ‘mill and overlaid’ or ‘slurry sealed’ streets and avoid more costly rebuilds and repaving projects. We are often asked why we’re working on a road that doesn’t appear to be in bad condition or why do we have these ugly squiggles on the roads. It is important to distinguish between true functional problems with the street surfaces and appearance or cosmetics. The purpose of crack sealing is to perform preventative maintenance to extend their useful life. It can cost ten times more to rehabilitate or reconstruct a road in very poor condition than it would to perform preventive maintenance earlier in the road’s life. By doing preventative maintenance, we are stretching our resources and doing the right fix at the right time.

Street Sweeping

The District contracts for an annual spring street sweeping and others if needed. Street sweeping will pick up harmful substances that contaminate the environment including dirt/debris and properly dispose of it. Otherwise they may make their way into the storm drains and into our streams and waterways. Street sweeping has been defined as a best management practice by the EPA in preventing storm water runoff.

2021 Projects:

- Developed a Road Assessment Database which will assist with planning and budgeting for future road improvements.
- In addition to concrete and asphalt street repairs, a complete mill and overlay project was completed in the Hillside neighborhood.