



7110 West Q Avenue | Kalamazoo, MI 49009 | www.texastownship.org | P: 269-375-1591 | F: 269-375-0791

May 24, 2016

Dear Neighbor,

The Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC), in partnership with Texas Township, is preparing to start a preventive maintenance chip seal and fog seal project in your neighborhood. The project will begin on Swallow Avenue from Finch Drive to 12th Street in Colony Woods and will be completed in Mid-June.

Five years ago Texas Township established a township-wide Special Assessment District to fund the cost of road maintenance within the township. Since that time, road maintenance costs have increased quite significantly. As such, the Township Board is seeking alternative options to preserving the infrastructure of local roads while maximizing our current budget to fund as many road projects as possible. A chip seal and fog seal treatment has been highly recommended by RCKC and we are eager to see the positive benefits and cost savings that this treatment option will provide. The chip seal that is being installed along Swallow Ave will use a smaller aggregate which will result in a similar look/feel of a regular asphalt road. The bullets below describe this process in greater detail.

- Chip seal is a preventive maintenance treatment in which the pavement is sprayed with asphalt emulsion, then immediately covered with aggregate and rolled (rotated) to its flattest side. The construction materials utilized in chip seal operations are the same materials used to construct hot mix asphalt (HMA) pavements. Chip seals are used to seal the wearing surface of an HMA pavement. A chip seal treatment preserves a pavement surface for up to a 10 year period as it prevents oxidization of the pavement surface and moisture infiltration, which reduces cracking and potholes.
- A fog seal treatment will also be applied to assist in reducing loose stone and dust associated with a new chip seal treatment. A fog seal treatment is a light application of asphalt emulsion diluted with water and applied to the surface of a bituminous pavement or recent chip seal. The fog seal treatment will create a black surface that resembles new HMA.

While Swallow Avenue wasn't initially intended to receive any maintenance for several years, the street met all of the conditions necessary for a chip seal and fog seal project. And given that the street isn't in need of substantial repair, we'll be able to monitor the effectiveness of the treatment over the next few years. Please note that there may be minor traffic delays with the chip seal and fog seal process. The chip seal is applied and then followed in 1 – 2 weeks by the fog seal, all weather permitting.

There are thousands of examples of chip seal around the county, an example with the treatments noted above includes:

- (West Port Trails) Bramble Drive - H Avenue to Bay Field Drive, Bay Field Drive - Hollison Drive to Oak Harbor Street, Hollison Drive - Bay Field Drive to Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor Street - Bay Field Drive to 595' north of Trayburne Trail, Trayburne Trail - Linderhurst Lane to 587' east of Oak Harbor Street, Linderhurst Lane - 9th Street to Kelfrey Cove, Kelfrey Cove - Hollison Drive to Linderhurst Lane, Oshtemo Township.

On Monday, June 6th at 5:30pm, we will be hosting an informative Town Hall Meeting at the Township Hall to discuss the project and representatives from RCKC will be available to answer any questions you may have. For additional information, please visit the RCKC website at <http://www.kalamazoocountyroads.com/maintenance.php> and also reference the enclosed brochure.

Please contact Township Trustee and Road Committee Chair, Jeff VanderRoest, at jvanderroest.tt@gmail.com, or the Township Office at 269.375.1591 if you have any questions regarding the project. We hope to see you at the Town Hall Meeting on June 6th.

Sincerely,

Julie VanderWiere

Julie VanderWiere
Texas Township Superintendent