



NEWS RELEASE

October 1, 2014

Street Maintenance (Chip Seal)

The City of Santa Maria's annual street maintenance chip seal program will begin on Thursday, October 2, 2014, and will last three weeks. Approximately 32 street segments throughout the City will receive treatment during the \$860,000 project.

Construction will move quickly from street to street. In order to construct the project, parking will not be allowed on the streets in active construction areas. The contractor will provide notice and post those streets with the dates and times when parking will be prohibited. Motorists are encouraged to obey all temporary traffic control devices.

Chip sealing is a thin layer of road resurfacing that protects and extends pavement life. First, the road surface is prepared by patching or crack filling and surface cleaning, then a spray binder is applied, a thin layer of gravel chips is placed, followed by several passes with a roller and the sweeping of excess chips. Finally, within three days of the chip application, a sprayed-on coat of fog seal is applied. The road is opened to traffic after chip spreading, and is only closed again during fog seal application and a short curing period.

The work will involve the removal of existing traffic striping, the placement of a chip seal with fog seal, and the re-establishment of traffic striping. The City has contracted with Pavement Coatings Company to perform the work. More than 306,000 square yards of chip seal will be applied – enough to surface 44 lane miles of roadway.

Chip seal applications present the possibility of damages to vehicles traveling through the work areas. Try to avoid these areas during the road work, and within several hours following the application.

Questions may be directed to the Department of Public Works, 925-0951 ext. 225.

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