



## VILLAGE OF MOUNT PROSPECT 2024 STREET RESURFACING PROGRAM

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### **How will I be notified that major street repairs will occur on my block?**

The Village will hand deliver a Resident Information Bulletin (RIB) brochure to each resident of a resurfacing street approximately one month prior to the start of construction. This bulletin outlines the type of work associated with the Street Resurfacing Program, and includes contact information for the Village personnel assigned to this project. A copy of this brochure is available as a PDF file on the Village website.

If we anticipate that your driveway access will be interrupted due to curb and/or sidewalk repairs, the Village will hand deliver a door tag notice to your front door approximately one week prior to construction. You will then receive another door tag notice the day before construction is scheduled to begin, which will instruct you to move your vehicle(s) to adjacent streets by a certain time. The contractor will also knock at your door the day of construction as a final notice. Sample door tags are available as a PDF file on the Village website.

Otherwise, the RIB brochure is the only hardcopy notification that you will receive from the Village regarding this program. Public Works will post weekly construction updates on the Street Resurfacing Program webpage of the Village website. The Village is also exploring additional methods to keep our residents informed, such as social media updates.

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### **Why can't you tell me the exact date or time that construction will occur on my street?**

This program involves multiple contractors and crews to complete: excavation, concrete, utility, asphalt, pavement striping, and landscaping work. Due to the volume of work, tight schedules, inclement weather, and the cost of moving equipment, contractors have flexible schedules. They also need to secure enough work in a centralized area in order to be the most effective with their crews. For example, although your street may be ready for asphalt paving, the contractor may postpone the work until other nearby streets are also ready for paving. As a Village, we understand that allowing these flexible schedules enables us to secure top-notch contractors at a reasonable cost.

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### **Will services to my home be affected by construction activities?**

Your regular services (i.e. garbage pick-up, mail delivery, or emergency services from the Police and Fire Departments) will not be affected by this project. However, there may be times during construction when service vehicle access to your street may be interrupted. We will try to make these interruptions as short as possible.

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### **Is work suspended during a week that includes graduation, prom, village-wide garage sale, etc.?**

No, street construction is allowed on these days. According to contract specifications, construction is only prohibited on Sundays and National Holidays.

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**I recently drove down a street that is being repaired. It seemed dangerous. Shouldn't you close the street?**

In general, streets will remain open to local traffic throughout construction in order for emergency vehicles, delivery trucks, and residents to reach these areas. We encourage motorists to avoid streets under construction if no other routes are available. However, if you must use a street that is being repaired, it is important to: drive slowly, proceed with caution, and pay attention to workers who are present. Please be aware that construction vehicles may be traveling at very slow rates of speed or not at all, and that excavated areas are barricaded.

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**The Village is repairing a street that I use to drive my children to school. Shouldn't the Village wait until summer to repair this street?**

Our goal is to schedule construction at dates and times that are least disruptive to local traffic. Unfortunately, since the Village repairs about 40 to 50 streets a year, it is sometimes impossible to synchronize this work around every conflict or event. Like most Villages, we have schools, churches, a train station, and even a college. To help maintain access to these areas, our streets remain open during construction. Even though construction activities can lead to delays, slow-downs, and even temporary closures, most areas in the Village can be accessed through alternate routes due to our Village's grid system of streets. Also, our contractors have proven track records to complete these streets in a timely manner, and they will continue to be efficient if they want to keep working in our Village. For that reason, it is their goal to be courteous and responsive to our residents.

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**Why doesn't the Village use concrete to pave our new local streets? Won't concrete last longer?**

Both concrete and asphalt have advantages and disadvantages. In general, concrete roadways are constructed in areas that will experience high traffic volumes, where rutting may be a problem. Our local streets have relatively low traffic volumes and don't typically experience rutting. Also, asphalt can be constructed at a lower cost; features low tire noise levels, and is relatively easy to repair. Therefore, asphalt is preferred on local streets.

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**Will cracked sidewalk squares be replaced as part of the work on the street?**

Prior to construction, the Village will inspect sidewalk within the Public Right-of-Way of the street. If these squares do not meet the standards outlined in the Village Code, they will be removed and replaced under the scope of the resurfacing program.

The Village will mark and document squares within the project limits that must be replaced. Additional unmarked squares can be replaced under a shared-cost option. Please contact the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 to schedule an appointment for an estimate. Please do not submit the Village Shared-Cost Sidewalk Program form; that form is for sidewalk outside of the Street Resurfacing Program.

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**The Village is replacing sidewalk squares on my street. How can I get more squares replaced?**

The Village will mark and document squares within the project limits that must be replaced. Additional unmarked squares can be replaced under a shared-cost option. Please contact the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 to schedule an appointment for an estimate. Please do not submit the Village Shared-Cost Sidewalk Program form; that form is for sidewalk outside of the Street Resurfacing Program.

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**What if I have a sprinkler system, decorative landscaping, or brick pavers in my parkway or in my property close to the sidewalk?**

If you have a sprinkler system, decorative landscaping, brick pavers, invisible dog fence, etc., please notify the Public Works Department. Per Village ordinance, and if necessary, it is *your* responsibility to temporarily relocate, reinstall, or repair any of these items during construction. Brick pavers disturbed by construction will not be reinstalled by the Village.

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**There is construction on my street. What if I can't get in my driveway?**

If your driveway access is interrupted due to curb or sidewalk replacement, you will be permitted to park on Village streets within the immediate area of your home. The Police Department will be instructed to relax restrictions on overnight parking at these locations. The Contractor will return access to your driveway within 10 calendar days after curb/sidewalk removal. Please allow at least three (3) full days before driving over new concrete. If you have special needs due to a disability, please contact the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640.

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**The Village is replacing curbs and asphalt on my street. My driveway apron is in bad shape. Will the Village replace my driveway apron?**

In general, the Village will only replace the portion of the driveway apron that had to be removed by the contractor, at no expense to the resident. For most streets, driveway apron repairs are not required.

If you want to replace your apron in the parkway (i.e. from the curb to the sidewalk), the Village can perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program, but the apron must be paid for by the resident. Please call the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 to schedule an appointment for an estimate.

If you want to replace your driveway on private property (i.e. from the sidewalk to the garage), the Village cannot perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program. You would need to contract directly with any contractor and obtain a permit from the Village Building Department. Please contact the Building Department at 847.818.5328 for more information.

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**The Village is replacing a portion of my driveway apron. Can I get the rest of my apron replaced?**

In general, the Village will only replace the portion of the driveway apron that had to be removed by the contractor, at no expense to the resident.

If you want to replace your apron in the parkway (i.e. from the curb to the sidewalk), the Village can perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program, but the apron must be paid for by the resident. Please call the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 to schedule an appointment for an estimate.

If you want to replace your driveway on private property (i.e. from the sidewalk to the garage), the Village cannot perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program. You would need to contract directly with any contractor and obtain a permit from the Village Building Department. Please contact the Building Department at 847.818.5328 for more information.

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**If my entire driveway apron is being replaced by the Village, can I have my apron widened?**

In general, the Village will only replace the portion of the driveway apron that had to be removed by the contractor, at no expense to the resident. If the Village needs to replace your entire apron to make this repair, it will be installed to match its original size and type (asphalt or concrete).

If you want to widen your apron in the parkway (i.e. from the curb to the sidewalk) beyond the original limits, the Village can perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program, but the widened portion must meet Village code and be paid for by the resident. Please call the Public Works Department at 847.870.5640 to schedule an appointment for a review and estimate.

If you want to replace or widen your driveway on private property (i.e. from the sidewalk to the garage), the Village cannot perform this work through the Street Resurfacing Program. You would need to contract directly with any contractor and obtain a permit from the Village Building Department. Please contact the Building Department at 847.818.5328 for more information.

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**The contractor is paving my street right now. My car is in the garage, and I have to get to work. What should I do?**

The contractor usually paves only one side of the street at a time, so that the other side can remain open for traffic. Pull out of your driveway and drive down the side that is not being paved or compacted with the heavy roller machines. Drive slowly and watch for other construction vehicles and workers.

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**The contractor is paving my street right now. I'm on my way home, and the street is barricaded closed. What should I do?**

The contractor may barricade the street while paving in order to discourage unnecessary traffic and to provide safety for the workers. Also, asphalt is hot and soft when it is first installed. After about 15 minutes from being laid, the contractor will compact the new asphalt with heavy rollers. This process will go on for about 30 to 45 minutes. After about 60 minutes, the rollers will leave the area and the barricades will be removed. The street will be fully open to traffic.

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**I see contractors' crews standing around and not getting anything done. Isn't this a waste of the taxpayers' money?**

No, the contracts that the Village secures are not based on time spent. Rather, we only pay for the items that are installed. There are occasions when crews are waiting for the delivery of materials or additional equipment. General street traffic during the construction season can delay contractors, too. When this happens contractors will often work overtime to get back on schedule. Again, the Village does not pay for this time – we only pay for items that are installed. These contracts also include penalties if the contractor does not finishing work according to established schedules.

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**My street is being repaired. Why do I not see any activity for several days after a rainfall?**

The contractor cannot construct new asphalt or concrete on wet surfaces. Therefore, it is sometimes necessary to allow underlying areas to dry after a rainfall. This process can take up to several days of warm, dry weather for all the water to evaporate, and may postpone scheduled construction activities. Some streets may be more affected by rainfall than others, and some may need special attention (i.e. pumping, drying, cleaning, etc.). Basically, rainfall is the contractor's worst nightmare due to the lost time that can result from it.

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**My street is being repaired. Why do I not see any activity on my street for several days during good weather?**

We repair about 40 to 50 streets per year. Our contractors work from mid-April to mid-November. While you may not see any activity on your street, the contractor is usually working on some other street nearby.

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**My street is being repaired. Why are the manhole covers “sticking up” higher than the road surface? Isn't that dangerous?**

Asphalt on local streets is typically replaced in a two-step process. The first layer, called the binder course, is installed first. After that, the manhole covers are set 1.5 to 2.0 inches above the binder course in order to match the elevation of the final layer of asphalt, called the surface course. The manhole covers are about two-feet wide. Until the surface course is installed, vehicles should be able to clear and straddle these structures. Also, the maximum speed on local Village streets is 25-30 miles per hour. At this speed, it should be easy to avoid hitting these covers with your tires.

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**New sod has been placed in my parkway. Should I water it?**

Residents are not obligated to water new sod. However, watering these areas will help to preserve the new sod during periods of dry weather. **Sod that dies after the initial 30 days will not be replaced by the Village.**

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**My street has been under construction for weeks. Why can't everything be constructed in a quick fashion?**

Under the Street Resurfacing Program, your street must go through the following steps:

- Repair damaged utility structures located in the curb line or sidewalk;
- Remove damaged sidewalk squares;
- Replace damaged sidewalk squares;
- Remove damaged curb;
- Replace damaged curb;
- Let the new curb cure for about 3 days (No other construction can occur during this time);
- Grind old asphalt from the street (involves large, special equipment that can only be brought into the Village when there are a sufficient number of streets prepared for grinding);
- Install the first layer of asphalt, called the binder course
- Traffic will drive on this street for about 3-4 weeks after the binder installation in order to show us any weak spots present under the asphalt (then repaired with full-depth asphalt patches);
- Repair damaged utility structures located in the pavement and set elevations to match the final surface elevation;
- Install the final layer of asphalt, called the surface course;
- Repair portions of driveway aprons that were damaged by construction activities;
- Repair the parkway areas that were damaged by construction activities.

This program involves multiple contractors and crews to complete: excavation, concrete, utility, asphalt, pavement striping, and landscaping work. Due to the volume of work, tight schedules, inclement weather, and the cost of moving equipment, contractors have flexible schedules. They also need to secure enough work in a centralized area in order to be the most effective with their crews. For example, although your street may be ready for asphalt paving, the contractor may postpone the work until other nearby streets are also ready for paving. As a Village, we understand that allowing these flexible schedules enables us to secure top-notch contractors at a reasonable cost.

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