



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Doubles Street Program

Jonesboro, AR—The City of Jonesboro today announced it is doubling its street overlay and sealcoat program for 2015.

Due to the significant ice and snow events of the past two years, Jonesboro streets have suffered a higher than normal rate of damage. To respond to this situation, Mayor Harold Perrin will request a budget adjustment to add an additional \$500,000 to the budget for overlay and sealcoating. The City Council Finance Committee will consider the request at its meeting on March 31.

Approximately \$500,000 was originally budgeted for the street overlay and sealcoat program from the Capital Improvement fund. The additional \$500,000 will come from Street Fund reserves. The revised plan will significantly increase the number of streets that get attention, as well as the total mileage.

“This is the very reason we try to maintain a reserve in our Street Fund,” said Mayor Perrin. “We can’t control the weather, so we have to be ready to respond and do more to fix the streets when they do get damaged.”

Sealcoating is a process where a coating is sprayed on a street to seal cracks and rejuvenate the surface. It is used on streets that are not in need of repair to keep them in good condition. Sealcoating is quickly accomplished and costs less than overlay.

Overlay is a process where the upper layer of asphalt is milled from the street surface and a new layer of asphalt is laid down. It is used for streets that need repair of the surface. It generally takes longer to perform and costs more.

The City maintains over 585 miles of streets. To help residents be aware of the locations of street work, signs will be put up at the entrance to streets where work is being performed. In addition to the regular caution signs, signs will also help identify this work as a project of the City of Jonesboro.

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