NEWS ADVISORY



July 26, 2013

For immediate release

Missoula's Annual Chip Seal Program Begins

Missoula City Street Division crews begin applying oil and chips as part of the City's annual Chip Seal Street Maintenance Program on Monday, July 29.

The City of Missoula annually seals the surface of about 100 blocks of streets using the chip seal method. The oil and chip seals the asphalt surface from weather erosion and extends the life of the pavement in the same way as painting a home. Sealing streets delays reconstruction and saves dollars and disruption for Missoula's residents. The City initiated this annual program in 1987. In the 25 years of its street maintenance program, the City has sealed a majority of the eligible streets and has started the next phase of street preservation by returning to many of the streets sealed and protected early in the program.

The chip seal project is expected to finish around Aug 8. The loose "chip" rock will be left on the street for an additional two to three weeks until street sweepers, after which street sweepers will sweep the chips. For the next year, the street will have a slightly rough surface because of the chip rock. All loose chip rock is eventually swept up.

The streets benefiting from this year's chip seal surfacing are listed below in a tentative order in which they will be completed. Weather and/or workload could change the scheduling.

Duncan Drive, Mountain View Drive to northern end East and West Main Street, North Orange Street to Madison Street East Front Street, Higgins Avenue to Madison Street West Spruce Street, North Orange Street to Nora Street North Russell Street, West Broadway to West Railroad Street South Sixth Street West, Schilling Street to Kemp Street Schilling Street, South Sixth Street West to South Seventh Street West Johnson Street, South Avenue West to South 14th Street West Arthur Avenue, South Avenue West to East Beckwith Avenue

Burlington Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street Strand Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street Kensington Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street North Avenue West, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street West Kent Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street West Central Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Bancroft Street West Sussex Avenue, South Higgins Avenue to Hollis Street South Avenue West, South Higgins Avenue to Holborn Street Lester Street, South Avenue West to North Avenue West Thames Street, South Avenue West to Mount Avenue Park Street, South Avenue West to Mount Avenue Hollis Street, South Avenue West to Mount Avenue Queen Street, West Central Avenue to North Avenue West Blaine Street, Mount Avenue to South Higgins Avenue Plymouth Street, Mount Avenue to South Higgins Avenue Ford Street, Mount Avenue to South Higgins Avenue Hill Street, Mount Avenue to South Higgins Avenue Roosevelt Street, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue Tremont Street, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue East Florence Street, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue West Beckwith Avenue, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue East Crosby Street, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue East Franklin Street, Brooks Street to South Higgins Avenue

Thanks in advance to drivers and cyclists for their patience during this summer project.

Ginny Merriam, Public Information/Communications Director, 552-6007 office; 546-7692 cell

#