MISSOULA'S ANNUAL CHIP SEAL PROGRAM AT WORK

City of Missoula Street Division crews are hard at work applying oil and chips to city streets in the City's annual Chip Seal Street Maintenance Program. The project will run July 17-20 and 24-27.

Missoula annually seals the surface of about 100 blocks of its 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, reduces the number of potholes and saves dollars and disruption for Missoula's residents. The City initiated this annual program in 1987. In the 30 years of the 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 takes two weeks to complete and should wrap up on July 27, weather permitting. Expect slight traffic delays throughout the project and a short detour on Hillview Way. Drivers and cyclists will see loose chip rock left on the streets for two to three weeks, when street sweepers will clean up the chips. Motorcyclists and bicyclists should go slowly during this period to avoid sliding. For the next year, the street will have a rough surface due to the rock chips and will also have some loose rock that will be cleaned up when streets are cleaned.

Street Division crews will place barricades on streets with on-street parking in advance of the chip seal operation. 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 schedule.

Questions? Please contact:
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For a complete list of streets on the chip seal schedule, see our chip seal flyer at
http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/770