



Director of Public Works

RE: Your Levy, Your Money, Your Roads

Dear Teton County,

Voters approved a Special Tax Levy for Roads and Bridges in May, 2010. Although the long spring and high runoff delayed our construction season, now is when you reap the rewards of your vote. Therefore, it is time to let you know what we at the County Road & Bridge Department are doing with your money.

Dust Abatement & Road Stabilization- What, Where, & Why

Teton County has contracted with Rocky Mountain Sealcoat, the low bidder and a local business, to apply liquid Magnesium Chloride on 12.75 miles of gravel roadways. Magnesium Chloride is a product which attracts moisture, keeping the road surface damp, thereby locking in the dust particles in the road surface. In addition to keeping the dust down it also stabilizes the road surface, reducing maintenance and extending the life of the gravel.

Without the special levy funds we had enough funding to apply dust abatement on 1-mile of roadway. The Commissioner's used actual traffic counts to prioritize which roads should be treated. Roads with the most traffic will receive the treatment with one exception that was based on safety considerations.

The following roadways will be graded and treated in the upcoming weeks: E5500S, Frontage Road between 5500S & 5000S, E4500S, W4000S, E250N, Stateline Rd from 250N to Ski Hill Rd., Grand Teton Rd., E6000N, and W10000N. Next year most of these roads will only need half as much product applied, enabling us to expand the number of road miles which receive dust abatement. If you believe your road has enough traffic to qualify for dust abatement next year, give us a call and we can check your traffic counts.

Many property owners hire local private dust abatement contractors to apply product on the road by their houses. Remember, any work in a public right-of-way requires a permit from the County Road & Bridge Department.

Gravel Crushing, Overlays & Re-builds– What, Where, & When

Every year Teton County Road & Bridge Staff need gravel to resurface roadways where gravel has migrated off of the roadway. This year we have created a new road surface gravel specification for our roads to provide the best gravel with the longest lifespan for our roadways. Using these specifications, Blosch Crushing is producing ¾" surface gravel from the spoils pile leftover from the Driggs Airport Runway project. This gravel will be used to resurface and repair roads throughout the county.

We will complete three major graveling projects this summer: S2000W (south of SH31), S2000W (north of SH31), and E6000N. The northern portion of S2000W received new gravel in July. Bentonite clay was incorporated in the gravel for this ¾ section to control the dust, bind the gravel into the road surface and increase the lifespan

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on the road. We will observe this test section in the upcoming years to see how well it works. Take a drive down it and tell us what you think.

The southern portion of S2000W will be rebuilt later this summer. Culverts under driveways will be added to improve drainage and the culvert conveying Warm Creek under the roadway will be upgraded. E6000N is currently under construction and will receive new culverts, drainage swales and new gravel in preparation for dust abatement.

Please remember, that Road & Bridge crews are working to make your roads smoother, safer, and longer lasting. When you see them working on your road, slow down and give them a wave and a smile.

Next Week: Chip Seals & Bridges

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