News Release

July 16, 2020

Road Delays for the week of July 20-24, 2020

Contact
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Chip Sealing:

Drivers may encounter delays due to the 2020 chip sealing operations **Monday, July 20 in the rural Castle Rock area, and Tuesday, July 21 on streets within the City of Castle Rock.** Wednesday is scheduled for equipment maintenance and relocation, with operations resuming **Thursday, July 24 on Beaver Creek Road in Wahkiakum County**.

Chip sealing is the primary surface type throughout Cowlitz County. Crews place a thin layer of oil, followed by specific rock chips. Sweepers ensure an even rock application while a roller packs the rocks into the oil. Within a week crews will return to sweep any excess rock that has not bonded to the oil surface, often multiple times. The treatment is applied approximately every seven years to keep roads in good quality. Chip seal is a cost-effective preservation treatment. Flaggers will direct traffic during chip sealing operations.

Roads scheduled for Chip Sealing (in approximate order) include: P.H. 10, Quick Road, Larsen Lane, 2nd Avenue SW, Hibbard Street SW, Aden Street SW, 1st Avenue SW, D Street SW, Mosier Road, Fair Lane, Green Acres Drive and Green Acres Way.

Chip sealing operations are expected to continue in the Longview area on Monday, July 27. Updated scheduling will be released next week. Subsequent schedules will include roads in the Kelso and Kalama areas. Maps by County area, of the roads to be chip sealed, are available on the Public Works web page.

Road Striping:

Drivers may encounter slow moving paint striping trucks next week on roads in Cowlitz County. The striping contractor releases the specific schedule of roads on short notice. Consequently, the road schedule is not available for the press release. The road areas will be posted to social media as they become available.

Motorists encountering the lead buffer truck are asked to wait until the last truck has passed before entering the roadway. Drivers behind, or travelling opposite of the painting operation, should not cross the paint lines. Per WAC 308-330-412, it is unlawful to drive across freshly applied markings. If vehicles do need to exit the roadway, they should proceed slowly at a 90 degree angle. Paint drying times will depend on weather, but it is generally dry within five minutes.

Pavement Overlay Status:

Drivers may encounter delays due to paving for the 2020 Countywide Overlay Project. Lakeside Industries, under contract with Cowlitz County, is scheduled to shift operations to the rural Kalama and Woodland areas next week. Paving operations are expected to require another three weeks to complete.

Roads scheduled for Overlay Paving (in approximate order) include: Martin's Bluff Road, Shirley Gordon Road, Green Mountain Road, Little Kalama River Road, Butte Hill Road, Insel Road, Finn Hall Road, Fredrickson Road, Merwin Village Road, Mill Creek Road, Oak Point Road, Cathlamet Road, Bunker Hill Road, Beacon Hill Road, Norwood Drive, Pare Drive, County portion of Tennant Way and Maple Hill Road.
Flaggers will be present as one lane will be closed. Drivers should expect delays of up to 15 minutes between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the active work zones.

Please use caution near construction zones and obey the directions of construction personnel and traffic control devices. Note: Both chip sealing and road striping operations are weather dependent. Moisture and temperature conditions can slow or postpone operations. Projected schedules are approximate.

Paint striping, chip sealing, overlay paving, culvert replacements and road improvements are scheduled throughout the summer. For up-to-date information please call the Department of Public Works at (360) 577-3030, or visit our website at www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/publicworks, or the Cowlitz County Department of Public Works Facebook page.

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