

Slurry Seal Project Q and A

Based on the comments and questions we receive regarding slurry seal projects, we thought it would be helpful to provide some additional information on what a slurry seal is, what you can expect it to look like, and how it should perform over time.

Q: This is not what I expected to see. Why doesn't it look like new asphalt?

A: While a slurry seal does cover the entire road surface with a dark material, it is not a brand new asphalt road. It goes down as a liquid "slurry" mixture and cannot be rolled and compacted like asphalt. Although its color is similar, it will not look the same as new asphalt paving because it has very different material properties.

Q: I see lines, bumps, and imperfections. Is this the result of bad workmanship, or a bad product?

A: A slurry seal will not provide a completely smooth surface. It will have imperfections; there will be joint lines where the material overlapped and lines where it was spread. In cul-de-sacs and intersections these can be particularly visible. This is very typical and is not an indication of bad workmanship or a bad product.

Q: If we are not getting a new road surface, then why spend the money on it?

A: This is a street preservation project, not street resurfacing and is an important part of Millersburg's street preservation program. The application of slurry seal will significantly extend the life of existing pavements by protecting the undersurface from the effects of aging and the environment. This cost effective maintenance treatment extends the life of streets already in good condition. By investing money in this type of preservation project, much costlier road resurfacing and reconstruction projects are required less frequently. Additional information on slurry sealing can be found here:

<https://www.slurry.org/page/Slurry>

Q: Our streets were smoother before this project. Now they are rougher and there are lines and tire tracks. What can we expect over time?

A: This product is relatively soft immediately after application, and takes some time before it fully hardens. The presence of tire tracks indicates compaction where vehicles have driven. The good news is that the imperfections, joint lines, and tire tracks will fade over time with continued traffic and weather. Over the next several months, City staff will continue to monitor these streets to confirm they are performing as expected. If you observe areas where the surface material is coming off, or where the bare pavement beneath is exposed, please let us know.