

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)
FY15 Residential Pavement Overlay Project
KNOLLWOOD VILLAGE
July 30, 2014

Beginning 8/4/14, for the next 30 days, an asphalt street overlay project will be in your immediate area (see street list below). We want you to do all you can to be prepared for the minor disruption.

- **Bevlyn from South Braeswood Blvd. to Linkwood Dr.**
- **Linkwood Dr. from Buffalo Speedway to Hatton**
- **Linkwood Dr. from Bluegate to Broadmead**
- **Linkwood Ct. from Linkwood Dr. to cul-de-sac**
- **Lorrie from Broadmead to South Braeswood Blvd.**
- **Conway from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Stanton from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Prescott from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Ashwood from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Chiswell from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Fairhope from Greenbush to Lorrie**
- **Hatton from Fairhope to Linkwood**
- **Broadmead from South Main St. to Lorrie**
- **Broadmead from Buffalo Speedway to Bevlyn**
- **Gannett from Norris to Bevlyn**
- **Norris from Gannett to Bevlyn**
- **Greenbush from Gannett to Broadmead**
- **Bluegate from Lorrie to Broadmead**
- **Bluegate Ct. from Lorrie to Lorrie**
- **Bluegate from Linkwood Dr. to dead-end**
- **Deal from Bevlyn to Greenbush**

How long is this street overlay project going to take to complete?

The entire project is scheduled: Start 8/4/2014 and End: 9/4/2014.

What is going to be replaced / installed with this overlay project?

Included in the scope of this project is: Mill and overlay of existing asphalt street. The overlay project will provide the following benefits:

- Smoother riding surface
- Protect the road base
- Reduction of thickness of street improving flood water capacity and possible return of more of a curb (depends on amount of overlays that may or may not exist on your street)
- Repair of road base failures and extreme cases of drainage issues (PWE will inspect and consider these on a case by case basis)

NOTE: this is not a full reconstruction project.

Who is providing this project?

Funded by the City of Houston as part of the FY15 Pavement Maintenance Program designated for District K.

PWE Project Management Team:

- Steven Loo, P.E., Managing Engineer – 832-395-2151, steven.loo@houstontx.gov.

District K Representative:

- Barbara Hite – 832-393-3016, Barbara.hite@houstontx.gov. Feel free to make Barbara aware of any problems that you think are not being handled properly or if you have feedback that you would like her to bring up to the Public Works and Engineering Dept.

Where to call to report problems?

- *Emergency needs (i.e. water off, toilets not flushing):* Contact the Project Management staff listed above.
- *Non-emergency needs:* Dial 311 - Mention to the operator the following 2 things along with your issue:
 - This is NOT a City of Houston CIP project but an overlay project
 - Refer the complaint into the “PWE Street and Drainage Division”.

Do you have special needs?

If you have special needs, please visit the District K website at www.districtk@houstontx.gov, access the *FY 15 Residential Overlay Project* link and download a *Special Needs Form* or contact us at 832-393-3016 to have a form e-mailed.

Where can residents look up the FY 15 Residential Overlay Project map?

DistrictK@houstontx.gov – click the *FY 15 Residential Overlay Project* link

Is this residential overlay project similar to a neighborhood street reconstruction project?

This is simply an overlay project of the existing asphalt residential streets. This overlay project is NOT a neighborhood street reconstruction project and does not include new sidewalks, curbs, street lighting, water lines and sanitary sewers.

How will the work progress on my street?

The project begins with the milling phase which takes about 1-2 days. During this time crews will manage traffic with flagmen and you will have access to your home.

The milling is followed by the overlay process. During overlay, one side of the street will be done at a time. Crews will help you to access your home as necessary.

Please drive slowly and safely entering and exiting the area. If driving on new overlay please try not to turn your wheels sharply. Asphalt overlay will completely set in about 24 hours, then you may drive normally.

On streets getting an asphalt overlay, what is the procedure for trash and recycling pick up?

During the overlay process, crews are made aware of the trash pickup schedule for your neighborhood and will flag down the trash truck and ask them to pick up trash before paving occurs. Please put your receptacles out as usual.

What about my curbing, sidewalk and driveway?

The asphalt overlay project will not impact your existing driveway or walkway. However, on occasion there has been some scraping of curbing. For this reason, photographs will be taken of the neighborhood prior to work beginning and should you receive damage to your curbing due to this process, repairs will be scheduled for after the completion of the overlay.

What about French drains?

We also recommend residents take pictures of any permitted drains/pvc tubing that you have going through the curb so you have evidence for replacement.

Why have various markers and protective barriers been placed in some yards around trees, etc.?

For most of the residences in this area, the City of Houston right-of-way extends about 16 feet into yards from the curb. As a result, the City and the contractors are granted full access into this right-of-way for this and any related projects. Once complete, the City is required to restore the yards to City of Houston standards. Both the City of Houston and the contractor are taking precaution to protect existing trees and resident property as best as they can. Additional right-of-way markers are in some yards, and removal of these causes added delays and expense. Please do not remove these markers or any protective precautions that have been provided in your yard.

Are they going to dig up my yard, or just my street?

Since this is not a neighborhood street reconstruction project, there is no need for the contractor to dig in your yard. The contractor will stay within the City's right-of-way relative to this asphalt overlay project.

At some point, will I have issues parking in my driveway or garage?

As mentioned, this is not a neighborhood street reconstruction project. During this overlay process, access to driveways will be maintained as best as possible for personal access. On some days, you will be asked to park nearby, but this usually only occurs on specific days that specific work is in front of, or blocking a given driveway at a given time. Naturally, rain and weather will have some impacts on these occurrences.

What about the new sidewalks?

New sidewalks or replacement or repair of existing sidewalks is NOT part of this asphalt overlay project. According to the City of Houston ordinance, existing sidewalks are the responsibility of the abutting property owner. Any streets or blocks that currently do not have sidewalks will not receive new sidewalks as part of this overlay project within the affected area.

What about our trees?

As mentioned earlier, the right-of-way extends about 16 feet from the back of the curbs into our yards. The City and contractor will make all attempts to protect existing trees in accordance with the tree protection plan provided in the plans. Affected residents will be informed in advance. The City Arborist will make recommendations where new trees will be planted to compensate for any removed trees.

What about landscaping near streets, sidewalks and curbs?

Again, right-of-way does extend well into our yards. We all mow and maintain these areas that we consider "our property", but right-of-way grants them full access and utilization as deemed necessary. Although the overlay process should have no impact on your plantings, if you have specific landscaping that you would like to save, we suggest you (personally) relocate such plant materials NOW!!

What about my driveway?

Since this is not a neighborhood street reconstruction project, new driveway aprons are not part of this asphalt overlay project.

What if I have an improved or special/decorative driveway and/or walkway?

This asphalt overlay project will not impact your existing driveway or walkway.

What about any school bus that typically drives on the affected streets?

The City will work with the schools and bus routes.

Will the contractor consider individual requests from residents to re-do entire driveways?

The contractor has a very tight deadline to complete this project so they will not be able to assist residents with these types of improvements.

Will the existing speed humps and speed cushions be replaced as part of this overlay project?

Existing asphalt speed humps in functioning condition will not be replaced as part of the street overlay. To ensure that the asphalt speed humps are not damaged, 10 feet of pavement each side will remain in place and not be milled and overlaid. Should an asphalt speed hump show signs of failure, such as a sink hold or missing middle sections that impair the performance, or incur damage during the mill and overlay process, it will be replaced in like.

Existing rubber speed cushions will also be protected and remain after the overlay.

Will my street be at a different elevation than it is today?

Over the past 50-60 years, the topography of our area has obviously shifted and created some highs and lows. The intent of this asphalt project by the City of Houston is to restore a good riding surface to the street and extend its useful life. The overlay process does not re-grade, realign, raise or lower any portion of the street. Any changes that may occur to the street elevation would be minimal or none at all.

Will updates be provided to residents?

Barbara Hite from the District K council office will keep a constant communication with the PWE project manager. If there are any status updates relative to this 30-day project, Barbara will inform the key community stakeholders impacted by this project (civic club board, school administrator, etc.).