

# Memo

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Joe Kohlmann, City Administrator  
**Date:** February 25, 2014  
**Re:** Sealcoating

---

As directed in the 2014 budget planning, Staff has developed a five year seal coating plan (as opposed to a three year cycle). Staff has attached a five year plan that evens out the costs over the five year term and provides a schedule for each road to receive maintenance.

As requested below (and attached), Robin Bowman is proposing to conduct the sealcoating process "in-house" and not working with WSB in a joint venture:

Asphalt seal coating is a surface treatment designed to seal and protect the asphalt pavement from harmful environmental conditions such as sunlight, rain, and snow. The seal coat prohibits water from infiltrating through the pavement and deteriorating the base of materials beneath the pavement. However, the seal coating will not correct any existing issues with the material below the asphalt. Surface treatments work well where the distresses are limited to pavement surface deterioration or where cracks are minor.

The current seal coat products are designed to last between five to eight years with weather conditions driving the variation in its lifespan. Previously, Tonka Bay has been on a three year seal coat rotation. I recommend that the city switch to a five year rotation which is the minimum lifespan of the seal coat product and then set aside the savings into a fund for future road replacement. Also, by switching to a five year rotation, the projected cost would be under the requirement for sealed bids allowing for requests for quotes.

Additionally, I recommend bringing the seal coating projects back in house within the Tonka Bay Public Works Department. During my professional public works career and as a Minnesota Road Scholar, I have always managed and performed all seal coating with the public works department as a cost savings measure on engineering fees.

**Council Action Requested:**

Discuss the seal coating plan and direct Robin Bowman to go out for bid on the seal coating.