

CITY OF HOBART

RESEALING ROADS FACT SHEET



A road crew undertake the resealing process in Lenah Valley, Hobart. Image: The City of Hobart

WHY IS MY ROAD BEING RESEALED?

As a road surface gets older, the bitumen becomes brittle and cracks. These cracks allow water to enter the base layers of the road leading to the formation of potholes and pavement failures which could lead to expensive road reconstructions. Resealing the surface waterproofs the road and prevents the water from damaging the road pavement.

The City of Hobart utilises road resealing as it is a cost effective alternative to asphalt. Asphalt is normally reserved for heavily trafficked roads and areas such as busy intersections. Resealing allows a greater amount of the road network to be addressed each year.

2. When will the resealing work begin?

You will receive information in your letter box about any upcoming works, and again in the week prior to the works commencing. Information can also be found at hobartcity.com.au/Projects/Roadworks-General-Information and via social media, which will inform you which roads will be resurfaced each day.

The work crew can resurface a number of streets in a day and may commence works any time between 7

am and 5 pm. Some days the work crews may experience delays and need to reschedule the work. Any changes will be relayed to residents.

3. How long will the resealing work take?

Resealing work on residential streets is usually completed within a day. Typically work crews will only be on site for several hours.

4. Where should I park my car on the day of the planned resealing?

On the day of the resurfacing you should keep your car parked in your driveway so that crews can perform preparation works including sweeping the street.

If you plan to go out during the day please consult with the traffic controllers or park your car on a side street outside of the planned work area.

5. When can I drive over the new road surface?

As soon as the traffic controllers open the road you can drive on the road. This is generally no longer than 20 minutes after the reseal has been applied to the road surface.

6. What if I have an emergency or need access to my house during the works?

Emergency personnel will always be given access in the case of an emergency. If you require access to your property please see one of our traffic controllers and speak to them about your access options. Usually there will be no restrictions for access to your property via the footpath, please consult traffic controllers if you require vehicle access during the works.

7. How often is resealing done?

Life expectancy of a reseal depends on factors including traffic volumes, traffic speed, loading and the effects of weather. The most common road resealing methods used within council, are Spray Sealing (chip seal) or Micro Surfacing (slurry seal). Standard life expectancy of these types of reseals is around seventeen years on the higher volume roads, but on the quieter residential streets this may be extended to twenty-five years.

The condition of City of Hobart roads is continually monitored to identify when roads require resurfacing.

8. What should I do if I have an allergy?

As a part of the reseal process we use petroleum based products such as bitumen, kerosene and diesel. If you are allergic to these products close the windows of your house and stay inside. If you are very allergic you may want to consider being away from your house while the work is being undertaken. For further information regarding these products please refer to contact details within the initial letter drop.

9. Will this affect my pets?

On the day of the resurfacing works, residents should take extra precautions to secure their pets. If your pet has an allergy to petroleum products, you should keep them inside with the windows closed and keep them off the new road surface.

If your pet walks in bitumen it can be removed with baby oil or a citrus based solvent and then washed with warm soapy water.

10. What happens if rain is forecast on the day of the reseal?

If rain is forecast we will not resurface your street on the advertised day as the new surface must be placed on a dry surface. We request that you don't use sprinklers to water your verge before the resurfacing as the over-spray may dampen the road surface.

11. Will the resurfacing works be done at night?

Work at night is usually only considered following extensive public consultation, for arterial, sub arterial and collector type roads to reduce the impact on business and daytime traffic.

AFTER THE RESEAL PROCESS

12. Why are there loose stones on my street?

Excess stones are required to ensure a good cover is achieved in the resurfacing process. Over time these will become embedded into the pavement surface or be removed by the street sweeping process. Following the resurface process, the sweeper will return several times over a two week period to remove loose stones.

13. Why is the new road surface rougher and noisier than previously?

The new rough surface helps to produce a more skid resistant finish, but the stones on the road will pack down over time under traffic to produce a slightly smoother surface. The removal of the loose stones and over time a smoother surface will reduce the noise generated from vehicle tyre interaction with the road.

14. Why is the new surface sticking to my shoes?

The bitumen reseal process requires time to cure and harden. On hot days, within the first six months after the works, the bitumen can soften causing stones to be turned over exposing the bitumen. To avoid exposing the bitumen you should enter and exit your driveway slowly using a gentle turn. The soft bitumen can also stick to shoes so it is recommended to remove your shoes before entering your home. Use citrus based products to dissolve the bitumen and wash this off with soap and warm water.

**For further information please contact:
03 6238 2711 or email coh@hobartcity.com.au**