

## Microsurfacing

Microsurfacing is a cost-effective, preventative treatment applied to the asphalt that extends the life of the roadway by preventing oxidization and moisture penetration. It can extend the lifetime of a road by five to eight years, depending on roadway traffic volumes.

### How microsurfacing works:

**Step 1:** “No Parking” signs and barricades are placed to close the road. The road is swept, then potholes and cracks are filled in preparation for the microsurfacing application.

**Step 2:** Microsurfacing treatment is spread on the road in a thin layer by a specialized machine that covers the entire width of a traffic lane in a single pass. The road is left with a rough looking surface texture.

**Step 3:** The roadway cures and the colour of the road surface, which appears either dark brown or green after microsurfacing, will fade to a black colour. The microsurfacing treatment reaches its full strength within 72 hours. However, the curing process typically requires two to three hours, after which time the road can be reopened to traffic.

### How will I be notified if microsurfacing is taking place in my area?

If microsurfacing is planned in your area, and your property will be impacted by the work, you will receive a notification bulletin that outlines the proposed schedule and providing details of the work. If schedule changes must occur (as work is weather dependent) affected property owners will be notified as soon as possible.

Additionally, the road will be barricaded and “No Parking” signs will in place when work is about to begin. These signs and barricades will be removed when the road surface has cured.

If you would like to see where microsurfacing is planned for this year, please explore the [Calgary Roadway Activities Map](#).

### What can I do to help?

To help us get work done quickly and effectively, please:

- Ensure all vehicles are removed from the roadway prior to treatment.
- Please do not drive or walk on the freshly coated micro surface until barricades and signs are removed. If possible, try to limit use of the road, as microsurfacing reaches its full strength within 72 hours of work being completed.
- Refrain from using lawn sprinklers or spraying water onto the roadway immediately before and during work.
- Once traffic is permitted, avoid turning your steering wheel while the vehicle is stationary (dry steering) on the freshly micro surfaced road as it will damage the road surface.