

## **Annual Road Spray Sealing Program – FAQ's**

You may have seen our Maintenance team or Contractors over the last couple of months preparing our roads in readiness for our Annual Road Spray Sealing program. Some of our works involved crack sealing using a hot bituminous spray to fill in cracks, shoulder and verge repairs and road patching works, clearing of open drains and kerb replacement works throughout the Shire. These works are specific and targeted for our Annual Road Spray Sealing program.

### **Why is my street being resurfaced?**

With age the road surface, made of bitumen, becomes more porous. Water may get into the underlying road pavement affecting its structure. Our Annual Spray Sealing program aims to re-surface roads before surface and structural damage occurs. These works are important and ensures the quality of the road is maintained and expensive repairs can be avoided.

### **Why are there loose stones on my street?**

It is normal for a spray sealed road to shed some stone or aggregate in the first few days after application. The sealing process includes sweeping the surface generally within a couple of weeks.

### **What is a spray seal?**

A spray seal involves the coating of the existing road surface with one or more layers of bitumen and rolling a layer of stone into the surface. It is quite common that a spray seal will be applied to a road even when there used to be an asphalt road. The best treatments are considered on a case by case scenario. This type of road surfacing can be affected by inappropriate driver behaviour particularly within the first six months of the seal being applied. In particular, vehicles can cause damage to the surface when wheels are turned while your vehicle is stationary or if you accelerate too quickly.

Council asks that you take care when entering and exiting your property and also when accelerating. Driving carefully will help ensure that the surface remains in a good condition. We thank you for your co-operation and understanding during the resealing works.

### **Why is the surface rougher than before?**

Before resurfacing, the original surface may have become worn. The road starts to have a smooth appearance because the aggregates are polished by the action of the traffic over time. The new surfacing applied to the road is designed to restore the right amount of surface texture. The spray seal will settle within months of traffic as the aggregates bed into the bitumen.

## Why are there spray paint marks on the road?

Before a new surface can be applied to the road, Council inspects it to determine if patching is required to fix up uneven or damaged sections. Markings are sprayed onto the road to let the contractor know what area needs to be fixed. These markings can be done in white or blue paint (see image below). Sometimes you will also see other paint markings on the road. This simply assists Council officers when collecting data on the roads for use when considering future programs.

