

SUBJECT: Asphalt Preventative Maintenance Program**Presented to Council**
Date: 10/8/01
verified by: JV.

REQUESTED BY: Administration

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

DATE: September 28, 2001

FOR AGENDA OF: October 8, 2001

SUMMARY:

Administration supports a preventative maintenance program for the city's asphalt roads, trails, parking lots and airport. This also includes ancillary concrete structures such as curb, gutter and sidewalks.

An asphalt preventative maintenance program would involve regular street sweeping, drainage maintenance, pothole patching, small asphalt overlays, crack sealing and, in some cases, sub-base excavation and repair. Some of this rehabilitation can be done using private contractors, but for a variety of reasons, this is not always possible. Because of limited resources in Wasilla, contractors do not always have equipment available when it is needed and in some cases, the cost of renting equipment is more, over the long run, than if the city purchases it. Because of the short construction season, availability is especially critical and, in some cases, the vendor is unwilling to lease equipment or do small jobs of less than a day or two. These small, short jobs comprise a majority of projects that are typically needed. As the current pavement ages and new pavement is added each year, Administration is requesting the City Council's support for an enlarged preventative maintenance program.

We are fortunate to have very capable contractors in our community. We anticipate doing a Request for Proposal to utilize the private sector and their expertise in this maintenance program.

To this end, we will be coming to the Council in the coming months with some specific requests for expanding the Public Works Department's ability to institute a preventative maintenance program using a combination of contractor and in-house labor. This will entail the purchase of some used, as well as new equipment, the possible long-term leasing of equipment, and contracting for a multi-year asphalt paving program.

The cost for this preventative maintenance program is presently being evaluated. Certainly, this will be a long term, on-going commitment on the part of the City Council to preserve one of our most valuable assets. Our goal is to evaluate the current condition of all asphalt in the city and then develop a schedule of routine maintenance. It is possible that in some cases, the condition of asphalt may be beyond repair and a capital improvement program will be needed. Delaying a preventative maintenance program will only increase the future cost of repairs and cause more hardship on the public using these facilities.

This is to inform you of our upcoming intentions.

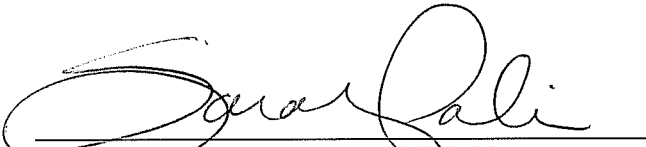
FISCAL IMPACT: ___No ___Yes, amount requested: \$

Fund: General Fund,
fund balance

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

FYI at this time.

MAYOR REVIEW/COMMENT:



Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor