

Maintaining Mesa's Streets



Keeping Mesa streets safe



PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

Typically, the life expectancy of a newly constructed road is between 20 to 30 years, depending upon a variety of factors. Weather, the sun, traffic loads and construction quality all play a factor in the longevity of a roadway. The City of Mesa focuses efforts on preventative maintenance to maintain Mesa's roads in good shape overall, while strategically identifying those that need work beyond pro-active maintenance.

Examples of the preventative maintenance the Transportation Department performs annually include:

- Crack seal
- Fog seal
- Slurry seal
- High density surface seals
- Asphalt patching and potholing
- Fractured aggregate surface treatment



RECONSTRUCTION

When preventative treatments no longer benefit a road, or the road has approached the end of its life, the Pavement Management group is tasked with reconstructing the roadway and “resetting the clock” on the road for another 20 to 30 years of safe, smooth driving.

CLEAN STREETS

In addition to performing street repairs and monitoring pavement condition levels, the Transportation Department also works hard to ensure Mesa’s streets and rights-of-way look their best. Crews perform landscape maintenance, storm drainage cleaning, graffiti removal, street sweeping, streetlight maintenance (there’s more than 41,000!) and pavement markings. Across the city, crews paint approximately 1,200 miles of lines annually. Crews also fabricate, install, repair and maintain more than 62,000 traffic control and street name signs in Mesa.

These efforts result in a safe and smooth journey for all who travel through Mesa.

PAVING THE ROAD TO INNOVATION

Over the course of the past few years, the Transportation Department has been implementing new materials, processes and methodologies for preventive maintenance and reconstruction projects as new materials and best practices become available.

Mesa has expanded its use of highly effective and longer lasting fog seals,

slurry seals and high-density surface seals. The City has also expanded its use of Fractured Aggregate Surface Treatment (FAST) to increase the structural integrity of roads that would normally be ready for reconstruction.

The Transportation Department is also leading the way implementing polymer modified asphalt roads, which increases the elasticity (delays cracking) of the road but also increases the strength and durability (prevents rutting). Mesa is the first city in Arizona to have a full-depth polymer modified roadway (check it out on University Drive between Val Vista and Gilbert Roads).

The City of Mesa resurrected an old concept called "Cold In-Place Recycling" which is a greener method of construction that reduces the project's carbon footprint. Cold In-Place Recycling involves milling, crushing and rejuvenating the current asphalt roadway in-place and placing it back down with one long train of equipment. As a bonus, this also reduces construction time and the total project costs.



With more than 462,000 citizens living in Mesa and thousands traveling through our city every day, well-maintained roads and rights-of-way are essential. What many don't realize, however, is the tremendous amount of planning and foresight that takes place in order to keep our roads in the best possible condition.

Whether it's conducting preventative maintenance, repairing potholes or striping our streets, City of Mesa crews are working hard to ensure your drive is a safe and smooth one.

More than 3,600 lane miles exist in Mesa, so keeping track of the condition of our streets can be daunting. (That's equal to over 900 miles of roadway - the distance from Mesa, Arizona, all the way to Dallas, Texas!)



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*Mesa Transportation
Driving Mesa's Future*

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Report potholes, graffiti, street light outages and more, download the City's free mobile app. Search Mesa CityLink to download from the App Store or Google Play.

