

● GLOSSARY

All-season Roads—roads that have a sub-base, base and surface of adequate thickness and composition to withstand year-round use of heavy vehicles without damage.

Asset Management – Asset Management is a systematic approach to selecting the best investment at the right time to maximize the life of the asset being measured.

Cape Seal—a surface treatment that involves the application of micro seal to a newly constructed surface treatment of chip seal. Cape seals provide a dense, waterproof surface with improved skid resistance and ride quality.
6-8 Year Average Life Cycle

Chip Seal—a surface treatment in which the pavement is sprayed with asphalt emulsion and then immediately covered with aggregate and rolled. Chip seals are used primarily to seal the surface of a pavement.
5-7 Year Average Life Cycle

Crack Seal - a rubber material consisting of polymers, virgin rubber and asphalt emulsion to form an elastic moisture barrier over cracks in the road that, when properly heated and applied, will maintain its form over extreme heat and cold fluctuations in the roadway preventing the infiltration of water.

Double Seal—two applications of chip seal applied to a prepared gravel base.
8-10 Year Average Life Cycle

Fog Seal—a light application of slow setting asphalt emulsion diluted with water and without addition of any aggregate applied to the surface of a bituminous pavement or recent chip seal. Fog seals are used to renew aged asphalt surfaces and seal minor cracks. When applied over a recent chip seal, the fog seal reduces dust and lock in aggregate.
1-3 Year Average Life Cycle

HMA (Hot Mix Asphalt) Overlay—the application of HMA (hot mix asphalt), a combination of aggregates, mineral fillers, RAP (recycled asphalt pavement), and asphalt binder. HMA is placed on top of gravel or other old surfaces and rolled to compact in place.
15-20 Year Average Life Cycle

HMA (hot mix asphalt) Wedge—a repair patch placed by a paving machine that varies in depth and length.

Infrared— the transfer of heat from a higher temperature object to a lower temperature object utilizing electromagnetic radiation.

Local Roads—county roads not classified as primary roads in the county road system. KCRC has 816.03 miles of these roads, including those in plats.

Micro Seal—a mixture of polymer modified asphalt emulsion, mineral aggregate, mineral filler, water, and other additives, properly proportioned, and spread on a paved surface. Also utilized to correct rutting on high volume roads. *6-8 Year Average Life Cycle*

PASER –PASER stands for Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating. The PASER system was developed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a tool to rate the current surface condition of roads.

Preservation—structural improvement roadwork, including placing a hard surface on a gravel road, reconstructing an existing road or bridge, resurfacing a road with a HMA overlay or installing new culverts or catch basins.

Routine Maintenance—roadwork, including pothole filling, pavement marking, roadside mowing, tree/brush removal, guardrail repair, minor drainage corrections, grading gravel roads, sign installation and snow removal.

Primary Roads—major roads within the county road system in Kalamazoo County. Primary roads typically accommodate 85 percent of the county’s road system traffic and include 449.28 miles of roadway.

Reconstruction—removing the existing road surface and replacing it with materials of a thickness that conforms to current standards for pavement design. Vertical and horizontal alignment drainage improvements are also factors of reconstruction.
Varies Year Average Life Cycle

Rehabilitation—placing additional surface material or doing other work to return a road, including its shoulders, to structural or functional adequacy.
Varies Year Average Life Cycle

Resurfacing—placing new bituminous pavement material over existing pavement. Shoulder material is added to match the elevation of the new pavement.
Varies Year Average Life Cycle

RoadSoft - road data GIS software used to compile and report on the condition assessments. RoadSoft was developed by Michigan Technological University for all road agencies in Michigan