



City of Monte Sereno

18041 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road
Monte Sereno, California 95030-4299
Telephone: 408.354.7635
Fax: 408.395.7653
www.cityofmontesereno.org

As part of the 2019 Street Pavement Improvement Project several streets were Cape Sealed as a pavement maintenance treatment. Please see below for more information on what to expect in the next few weeks as the Cape Seal cures.

A Cape Seal is a combination of a chip seal followed by a slurry seal. A chip seal is made from the same material as hot mix/plant mix asphalt. The chip seal corrects a wide variety of minor road surface issues including rutting, cracking and minor alligating. The slurry seal surface layer then adds a smoother ride and increased durability to the treatment. The result is a fresh, clean look and a safer driving surface with improved traction.

Both City staff and contractor crew supervisors continuously monitor the progress of the project. If there are any issues detected, they are put on a punch list to be corrected after the designated neighborhood streets have been treated.

The surface may appear rough or the installation "sloppy"

For the first couple of weeks after the install, it's natural for some of the fine surface gravel to wear out of the slurry matrix. There may also be places along the gutter where loose aggregate can accumulate. After the slurry seal surface has had enough time to settle in, and the installation punch-list is completed, there is a final inspection. If there's too much material on the surface of the roads, a sweep will be completed to remove it.

It's also natural for the new surface to have some irregularities. These may include slight ridges, drag marks and/or color variations. These are due to the nature of the treatment's ingredients and the remnants of the installation process. In almost all cases, this is not bad work, but the nature of the treatment material and the best practices for installing it quickly and economically.

Even after streets are open to traffic, it takes several months for a Cape Seal to cure completely. Scuffing and/or tire marks on the newly coated surface may occur especially in the hot sun. Scuffing and/or tire marks is normal and temporary, usually occurring within the first month after the sealcoating has been applied. The more visible tire tracks and "power steering" marks are often caused by heavy trucks, RVs, and trash trucks. While this is unavoidable, most of these marks will disappear with time and traffic use.

The photographs below are of the same area showing how slurry seal will "settle in". The first photo is the day after the slurry was installed. The second photo is the same area two months later.

