



# CITY OF TOPEKA

---

City Communications  
City Hall, 215 SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66603-3914

Tel: 785-368-0991  
[www.topeka.org](http://www.topeka.org)

## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Contact for further information: Molly Hadfield, Director of Media Relations 368-0991,  
[mhadfield@topeka.org](mailto:mhadfield@topeka.org)

April 6, 2018

### 2018 Road Construction Kick off

Topeka, KS- The City of Topeka is kicking off road construction projects for the summer of 2018. These projects are essential to restore roads in Topeka and to maintain them in order to keep roads in good shape for as long as possible.

“The streets in Topeka are improving and we are committed to keeping streets in Topeka in the best shape possible,” said Public Works Director Jason Peek. “The city is using new and innovative techniques to extend the life of our roads and keep them in the best shape possible while also replacing the streets that need the most work.”

The Public Works Department has been hard at work putting the city’s half cent sales tax to good use by improving streets all over the city. Two years ago, the city embarked on a new pavement management program heavy on analytics and effective processes. The first step was to gather data. In the fall of 2016, the city hired an independent firm to gauge the condition of our streets from 0 (the worst) to 100 (the best). Poor condition pavement ranks between 0-54; Fair between 55-70, and Good between 70-100. The most effective investment for Poor condition pavement is complete reconstruction; Fair condition, major to minor rehabilitation; and Good, regular preventive maintenance.

The second step was to review various street maintenance methods and determine which ones were effective, which ones could be improved, and which ones may be missing. Following eight years of improvements, it was determined that a new method was needed to keep the good streets good. As a result the city started a micro-surfacing program that preserves the streets and keeps them in good condition for longer. Streets that are in good, satisfactory or fair condition, but not yet a candidate for a mill and overlay or replacement, are treated with micro-surfacing.

Together, micro-surfacing, the combination of crack-sealing and micro-sealing, are a cost-effective way to “keep our good roads good”. The process takes a lot less time at a much lower cost than the more extensive mill and overlay project. The City plans to micro-seal approximately 83 lane-miles this spring/summer. The same roads were crack-sealed in the

fall. This fall and winter, the City plans to crack-seal between 40 and 50 lane miles of street followed in the spring of 2019 with more micro-surfacing.

Several major projects are in the works including mill and overlay and replacements of streets and intersections. Those projects can be found below.

Street crews will be working hard all summer to build the best roads for Topeka so please keep these safe driving tips in mind during construction season:

- Be alert and watch for workers.
- Be prepared to stop when necessary.
- Follow all traffic control.
- Don't take shortcuts through private property.
- Give yourself extra time to get to your destination.
- Don't tailgate.

Major road project details can be found on the front page of the City of Topeka's website at [www.topeka.org](http://www.topeka.org) or at <https://www.topeka.org/streetmaintenance/street-projects/> .

**The major street projects for 2018 include:**

**SW 49th – Wenger Road to the RR Tracks – Project #701027.00**

Start Date: March 5, 2018

Completion Date: July 13, 2018

Details: This project will transform a rural two-lane unpaved road into a Concrete, 3 lane section, 41 ft. industrial road, with curb and gutter.

**SW 29th and Burlingame Intersection**

Start Date: April 30

Completion Date: Nov. 9

Details: The intersection will be removed and replaced.

**SW 21st and Kansas Avenue Intersection**

Start Date: April 23

Completion Date: Nov. 2

Details: The intersection will be removed and replaced.

**SW Arvon Place/Huntoon Street/I-470 Ramp**

Bid Opening: April 11

Start Date: May 7

Completion Date – Phase I of II: November 30, 2018

Details: This project will include complete removal and replacement as well as the relocation of the Arvon Pl. and SW Winding Road intersection. This is a two-construction season project.

**SW Gage – 21st to 25th**

Bid Opening: April 24

Start Date: June 11, 2018

Estimated Completion Date: October 2018

Details: This project will include full-depth patching and a mill and overlay.

**N. Vail – NW Gordon to Hwy 24 Frontage Road**

Estimated Start Date: Fall 2018

Estimated Completion Date: Summer 2019

Details: The project will be a complete removal and replacement.

**SE Adams – 29th to 33rd**

Bid Opening: April 24

Start Date: May 29

Completion Date: November 9, 2018

Details: This project will include complete removal and replacement.

**Public Open Houses for Road Projects:**

A public open house for the SW 29th and Burlingame Project is scheduled from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Thursday, April 12, Countryside United Methodist Church, 3221 SW Burlingame Road.

A public open house for the Arvonja/Huntoon/I-470 Project is scheduled from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Monday, April 23, Washburn Tech, 5724 SW Huntoon, Bldg. A.

Additional public meetings will be scheduled for some projects as they near construction.