

# Memorandum

## City of Lawrence

### Public Works

**TO:** Mark Thiel  
**FROM:** Tom Orzulak, Street Division Manager  
**Date:** 07/03/2012  
**RE:** **2012 Street Division Mid Year Report**

The City of Lawrence Street Maintenance Division is responsible for 323 center line miles of streets (811 lane miles) with 40 employees. The work force is divided into 4 crews, asphalt, concrete, levee/sweeping/alleys and storm water.

The Street Maintenance Division provides a wide range of services for our citizens, for transportation maintenance and for community events. Our normal activities include pot hole patching, curb and gutter repair, City owned sidewalks and wheel chair ramps, crack sealing, street sweeping, snow removal and storm drain and pipe cleaning. These are the things that people see us do every day.

We also maintain the Kansas River Levee system. The levee covers 2600 acres and is about 13 miles long. The Levee protects North Lawrence and a large portion of farm land in Douglas County from the Kansas River and Mud Creek. The river levels are monitored by our staff year round and are the first to respond to rising water levels. We also maintain 8 miles of the Levee top for recreation, a popular place for walking, jogging and bike riding.

We take care of 250 miles of open drainage, many of which that are in remote areas of the City. We also take care of the three storm water pump stations in North Lawrence. These pumps keep the underpass on North 2nd street dry and remove up to 22,000 gallons of water per minute from the low lying areas every time it rains.

The Street Division provides traffic control devices for special events, all emergencies such as fires or major traffic accidents and as needed throughout the community. All members of the Division have received training for natural disasters such as tornadoes or floods and are experts at debris management and removal. We often assist other City Departments with heavy construction projects that involve earth moving, concrete and asphalt work. It is safe to say that no matter what happens in Lawrence, the Street Division is there providing service.

The winter season of 2011/2012 ended as it started as one of the mildest on record. We only had one event that was of any consequence and it was over in 16 hours. We used very little salt so we already have enough for the coming winter. We did, however, take bids for salt. The price remained the same as last year so we will be evaluating the possibility of purchasing the bid amount for our next budget cycle. There may be an opportunity to save money by avoiding a price increase next year.

The mild winter had other positive advantages by allowing us to do many construction projects that are normally not possible. We got a jump on curb, gutter and concrete street patching projects between N. Michigan and W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. These streets, along with the current mill and overlay projects, will upgrade the streets in the entire neighborhood.

To date the number of pot holes calls for the first 6 months of this year from the Pot Hole Hot Line has gone from 111 compared to 321 from the same period of last year. This is an obvious benefit of the good weather. Instead of patching pot holes, we were able to do a major patching of Kasold Dr. from 8<sup>th</sup> St to Bob Billings Parkway that will extend the life of the road for a few more years. This is the last section of that road that has not received rebuilding or major maintenance.

We have had 2 major events not related to street repairs so far this year. They were the St. Patrick's Day parade, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lawrence Parade, and the Kansas Relays Downtown Lawrence. These special events, along with numerous runs, walks sidewalk sales and block parties require putting up signs and placing barricades, extra sweeping and general assistance to other Departments.

Other major projects completed included the following; 1, catch basin and under drain installation on Kasold near Peterson to correct a serious icing problem. 2, A significant amount of deferred maintenance needed to the Street Division yard at 1140 Haskell Ave. part of was recycling the parking lot surface in place and paving. 3, Cleaning the drainage ditch and culvert at 27<sup>th</sup> St. and Crossgate Dr. which amounted to moving about 3,100 cu. yds. of dirt.

These projects demonstrate our skills, our pride in workmanship and our commitment in Providing Quality City Services.

The continued growth of the division in terms of responsibility, project complexity and size continues to grow with much success. The divisions' staff is a group of professionals that are eager to take on these growing responsibilities. In many instances the only limit to their ability will be equipment owned. I look forward to continued growth of the division with much success.

### **MAJOR PROJECTS COMPLETED (in addition to routine maintenance)**

1. Patching on Kasold from 8<sup>th</sup> St to Bob Billings Pky (263.74 tons of hot mix asphalt)
2. Graded all alleys in the City 2 times.
3. Swept all City streets 2 times and all major streets twice.
4. swept the downtown 8 times.
5. swept the University area 3 times.
6. Cleaned 8 miles of storm pipe.
7. Had 1 major and 3 minor snow storms.
8. Responded to 79 e-mail and 111 Hot line phone complaints.
9. Mowed the entire levee 2 times.
10. Mowed approx. 1,476.5 acres of right-of-way, City property and drainage ditches.
11. Cleaned 6 well ditches on Mud Creek levee.
12. Paved the gravel portion of Johnson Ave.
13. Grade all levee ramps.
14. Cleaned and repair the storm water retention pond near the County Shop.
15. Repaired/replaced curbs for micro-surface contract.
16. Concrete patching of the 100 Bk of Minnesota.
17. Concrete patching of the 100 Bk of Florida.
18. Used 31,310 lbs of crack filler on various streets.
19. Pinewood Ave concrete curb repair.
20. Northwood Ave concrete curb repair.
21. Recycle in place the parking lot at 1140 Haskell (Public Works lot).
22. Installed curbs and stamped concrete sidewalks around all of the islands of the N3rd St Kansas Turnpike interchange beautification project.

23. Cleaned the waterway and culvert at 27<sup>th</sup> St and Crossgate.
24. Repair termite damage to various out buildings at the Street Division yard.
25. Repaired and painted the spreader rack at the Street Division yard.
26. Continued installing a salt brine system to the rest of the Street snow removal fleet.
27. Converted one street truck to use natural gas.
28. Did all the street restoration for all the in house Utility Department water line installation.
29. Under drain Kasold and Peterson and end of island catch basins.

## **PROJECTS IN PROGRESS/PENDING**

1. Recycle 900 Bk of Arkansas and pave.
2. Recycle 10<sup>th</sup> St from Missouri to Arkansas and pave.
3. Pave W6th Terr.
4. Concrete patch of Holiday Dr.
5. Concrete patching of W26th St from Iowa to 27<sup>th</sup> St.
6. Curb repair for 2012 mill and overlay
7. Rebuild the culvert at Lawrence Ave. on Bob Billings Pky.
8. 2012 crack seal program (far west Lawrence).
9. Repair sidewalks at the Senior Center.
10. Repair the culvert from Delaware to the BNSF RR tracks.
11. Concrete repair Orchard Lane
12. Concrete repair Cedarwood Dr
13. Concrete repair Ridge Ct
14. Concrete repair Harper St.

**Some Interesting Numbers.**

<b>Pothole Reports</b>				<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Potholes reported on Hotline & phone				111.00	
Potholes reported on Wufoo (on-line reporting)				77.00	
DATE					

<b>Asphalt</b>				<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Number of holes patched				4,131.00	
Tons of Hot mix used				137.92	
Tons of cold mix used				71.25	
Yards of Durapatch used				62.00	
Pounds of Crack Sealer used				34,310.00	
DATE					

<b>Sweeping</b>				<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Tons of debris collected				2,722.00	
Miles Swept				3,789.00	
Acres Mowed				1,476.50	
DATE					

<b>Concrete</b>				<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Yards of concrete place				674.50	
Feet of Curb				3,451.00	
DATE					

				<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Catch Basins rebuilt				15.00	
Catch Basins Cleared				394.00	
Feet of Pipe Cleared				1,101.00	
DATE					

600 Block of Johnson Ave.



Installing meters downtown

Patching 15<sup>th</sup> St near Jayhawker Towers



Paving the Street Division parking lot