

Brian --

I'd like to understand what can be done to accelerate the street repair schedule, and what can be done to help residents anticipate when their street might be repaired, and/or repaved.

SHORT TERM:

In the short term, this is about pothole repair -- patching streets and sidewalks without repaving the whole street. I suggested at the previous Town Council meeting that the budget line items below be increased accelerate the street repair schedule. Could you advise if those are the right line items to accelerate pothole repair? Is the \$161,550 increase in "Laborer Salary" applicable to new staff for pothole repair? Would increasing "Road Materials" accelerate pothole repair? Why is the increase set to zero for that line item?

FY2022 Budget Request for Department 400 DPW Highway:

Object	Description	FY21	FY22	Increase
511700	Laborer Salary	\$756,318	\$917,888	\$161,550
543110	Road Materials	\$38,000	\$38,000	\$0

How can residents request that potholes get repaired? I asked about this several weeks ago and was referred to the "Report an issue" link of the DPW website, <https://seeclifix.com/randolph/report> -- which sounds great -- so I tried it. A constituent asked me to visit to observe broken sections of sidewalk, and I reported it on that website -- no response as of today. Is that the right reporting method? I do see some responses online from DPW adding locations to the "hot mix repair list" -- is that the "Road Materials" in the budget? I'd like to recommend an increase in the budget for "hot mix" or whatever is needed to accelerate the pothole repair.

MID-TERM:

How can residents know when their street will be repaved? By "repave", I mean full repaving, not pothole repair. I would like to make a new section of the DPW website where residents can look up when their street is scheduled to be repaved -- it doesn't have to be accurate to the day, just to the estimated year.

As you showed me a few years ago, there's a big thick book of every street in Randolph, its repair condition, and hence its priority for repaving. My understanding is that each year, the DPW addresses the repaving list in priority order until the funding runs out. Which line item funds repaving? If we increase the line item, is it correct that increasing funding would accelerate the street repair schedule?

I suspect that if people could see what year their street might get repaved, that they would demand an increase in the budget to accelerate the schedule. That's why I want to publicize the schedule - - so that the public can decide how much is reasonable to increase the budget and accelerate the schedule.

As we discussed at the June 7 Finance Subcommittee meeting, this is the #1 issue that residents raise when I ask what they need the town to do for them. I have heard dozens of times, "I've lived on this

street for two decades and it's never been repaved." I'm not concerned repaving major through-streets -- I live on West Street and it has been repaved regularly -- I mean the hundreds of cul-de-sacs and small streets throughout Randolph.

LONG TERM:

There's a big federal infrastructure bill coming -- we don't know exactly how much or exactly when, but it will bring millions of dollars to Randolph. We don't know either exactly what projects will count as "infrastructure" -- but there's no question that street repaving counts! So what if we anticipate applying some of that federal infrastructure money to street repaving?

Specifically, that would mean massively increasing the budget line items for street repaving, which would accelerate the repaving schedule above. I asked our new DPW head about this, and he pointed out that this task is contracted out, not done internally. So what line item is that contract on?

I would like to prepare to use tens of millions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding for a major acceleration of the street repaving schedule. You agreed publicly at the June 7 Finance Subcommittee meeting that you have heard from many people about the high priority for street repaving - - could we come up with a plan of what to do to address that?

Thank you,

Jesse Gordon