

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
BETA Pavement Management Program

November 18, 2019 at 6:00pm

Councilors Pepin, Vincent, Dumont, Austin, Michaud, Witham, Sprague, Cameron and Levasseur were all present.

Mayor Hilliard opened the workshop at 6:00pm by welcoming Conrad Ledger of BETA. Mr. Ledger presented the Pavement Management Program Presentation.

The presentation is on file. Following the presentation, Council had the following questions.

Councilor Witham asked if RSR (Road Surface Rating) used in BETA is similar to the PSI (Pavement Index) that was used with the previous pavement management study.

Mr. Ledger said, yes, it is similar.

Councilor Witham said that the program shows an RSR for each street, however some streets are only deteriorated in certain areas. He asked if this was an average or if the streets could be segmented.

Mr. Ledger explained that the City has the ability to see the full street or an RSR for segments.

Councilor Witham asked about the traffic count data.

Mr. Ledger said the City has the ability to change the data as the traffic count information becomes available.

Councilor Witham asked if this data includes the recent road repairs.

Mr. Ledger said it does not.

Councilor Sprague said that the pictures show a lot of cracks, what about deterioration and roughness of the road?

Mr. Ledger explained that the pictures are taken with a cell phone that is mounted inside a vehicle. Inside all cell phones is a gyroscope that senses motion. The gyroscope inside the phone records the roughness of the roads as well.

Councilor Sprague asked about RSR forecasting. If the City allocates \$1.3mil a year for road repairs, they will see a steady incline and will reach the 70 RSR eventually.

Councilor Sprague went on to ask what crack sealing does for roads.

Mr. Ledger said crack sealing prevents water from coming in and getting into the base. The freeze/thaw cycle creates pot holes. Fog seal prevents oxidation of a surface, then there are chip seals and overlays for more preventative projects.

Councilor Levasseur said this is a curb to curb index. He asked if there was a method for sidewalks.

Mr. Ledger said the only way at this time is 'Boots on the Ground.' The cell phone needs to be mounted, but they do have experience with this.

Councilor Levasseur asked what the 5-year spending average has been.

Director Bobinsky said the average has been about \$1mil a year.

Councilor Levasseur asked if we have used for seal in the City.

Director Bobinsky said we have not. We have done some crack sealing and have recently done a section of High Street, and some of Winter Street.

Councilor Austin stated that he sees an investment of approximately \$8mil will get us an increase of 2 RSR points.

Mr. Ledger said this is case by case. He suggested that the City set levels that they want to be at, and strive for that. A realistic goal is to improve on an annual basis. There will be improvement; poor roads will come up to fair or good. It will take time.

Councilor Witham said, when we started a more aggressive plan, we can already see marked improvement to the main roads. We are now working on some side roads.

Councilor Witham asked what the PCI was previously.

Director Bobinsky said the PCI was 55. We are now at 64, and we are striving for an RSR of 70.

Councilor Sprague said this does not take into account the cost of product. The City will need to increase funding to see progress.

With no further questions or comments from Council, the Workshop adjourned at 6:41pm

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Harris, City Clerk