

# Memorandum

## City of Lawrence

### Public Works

**TO:** Mark Thiel  
**FROM:** Tom Orzulak, Street Division Manager  
**Date:** 07/01/2013  
**RE:** **2013 Street Division Mid Year Report**

The City of Lawrence Street Maintenance Division is responsible for 329.2 center line miles of streets (812.5 lane miles) with 38 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 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 2012/2013 started as one of the mildest on record. We only had three events that were of any consequence, and in most cases, were over in 16 hours. Then the tables turned. We had 5 more events starting in February and even had the threat of snow all the way until the first week in May. During this time frame we also experienced the biggest back to back snow falls in Lawrence history.

The mild winter start, however, had other positive advantages. We were able to start the demolition of the foundations of the former Farmland Industries site, which paved the way for the bigger project of making the site into a business park. In three months we removed over 15,000 tons of concrete foundations, 1,500 feet of abandoned piping and 4,500 tons of asphalt roadways.

The number of pothole calls for this year so far from the Pothole Hot Line and from the web site e-mail form has been 197 combined compared to 181 for the same period last year. This is an obvious benefit of the good weather and our aggressive maintenance plan. We also were able to increase the amount of crack sealing from 34,310 lbs. for the first 6 months of 2012 to 41,277 lbs. for the same period of 2013.

We only had two major downtown events so far this year. The Saint Patrick's Day Parade and the Tour of Lawrence bike race. We did prepare for the KU basketball NCAA run and the Kansas Relays Downtown but neither materialized, with the basketball run ending early and bad weather for the Relays.

Other major projects completed besides the Farmland work were the Massachusetts/23<sup>rd</sup> St gateway to mirror the North Lawrence Turnpike gateway that we did last year, the emergency replacement of the culverts under Powerhouse Rd, concrete barrier wall and storm pipe replacement on the rebuilding of the east bound lanes of Bob Billings Parkway and the Natural Gas fueling station foundations at 11<sup>th</sup> and Haskell.

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. Installation of the Leo Beuerman monument at 8<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts.
2. Graded all alleys in the City 2 times.
3. Swept all City streets 3 times and all major streets twice.
4. Swept downtown 8 times.
5. Swept University area 3 times.
6. Cleaned 2,141 feet of storm pipe.
7. Had 5 major and 3 minor snow storms.
8. Responded to 60 e-mails and 109 Hot line phone complaints.
9. Mowed the entire levee 4 times.
10. Mowed approx. 2,910.5 acres of right-of-way, City property and drainage ditches.
11. Cleaned 6 well ditches on Mud Creek levee.
12. Paved Colonial Court.
13. Grade all levee ramps.
14. Installed 900 ft. of storm pipe on Ridge Court.
15. Removed concrete foundations for Phase I & II on the Farmland Site.
16. Installed 200 ft. of storm pipe on Golden Rain Dr.
17. Repaired 6 washouts on Mud Creek Levee.
18. Used 34,178 lbs. of crack filler on various streets.
19. Repaired the material storage sheds at 11<sup>th</sup> and Haskell.
20. Installed 2 additional brine tanks at 11<sup>th</sup> and Haskell and at the Wakarusa Service Center.
21. Installed curbs and stamped concrete sidewalks around all of the islands of the 23<sup>rd</sup> St and Massachusetts St Gateway beautification project.
22. Repaired and painted the Red Barn at the Street Division yard.
23. Continued installing a salt brine system to the rest of the Street snow removal fleet.
24. Repaired the intersections of Peterson and N. Crestline, Sunchase Rd. and River bend Ct and Circle.

- 25. Installed new culverts under Powerhouse Rd.
- 26. Build a retaining wall for the new rec. path on Bob Billings Parkway.

**PROJECTS IN PROGRESS/PENDING**

- 1. Installation of a Compressed Natural Gas Fueling Station at the 11<sup>th</sup> And Haskell Yard.
- 2. 2013 crack seal program (far west Lawrence).
- 3. Install concrete pipe on the Bob Billings rebuild project.
- 4. Install new sidewalk to fill in gaps on W.23<sup>rd</sup> St.
- 5. Concrete repair Ridge Ct
- 6. Concrete repair w.26<sup>th</sup> St.

More projects will be added to the list before the end of the year and we will be ready to fit them in our schedule. As always, we will be ready to do whatever needs to be done.

Some Interesting Numbers:

<b>Pothole Reports</b>		<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>
Potholes reported on Hotline & phone		109.00
Potholes reported on Wufoo (on-line reporting)		60.00

<b>Asphalt</b>		<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>
Number of holes patched		3,983.00
Tons of Hot mix used		146.96
Tons of cold mix used		69.75
Yards of Durapatch used		80.00
Pounds of Crack Sealer used		41,277.00

<b>Sweeping</b>		<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>
Tons of debris collected		2,367.00
Miles Swept		3,033.00
Acres Mowed		1,066.00

<b>Concrete</b>		<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>
Yards of concrete place		312.75
Feet of Curb		1,726.00

<b>Total Usage from 1/1 to 6/30</b>	
Catch Basins rebuilt	-
Catch Basins Cleared	403.00
Feet of Pipe Cleared	460.00



Street Division Clearing Snow from Downtown



Street Division Clearing Major Arterial



Concrete Crew - finishing concrete at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Massachusetts St



Storm Water Crew - Ridge Ct. Storm Sewer Installation



Street Division All Crews - Farmland Foundation Demolition



Concrete & Asphalt Crew - 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Patch



Asphalt Crew – Patching Repairs



Concrete Crew – Leo Beerman Plaque Move



Concrete Crew - Stamped Concrete 23<sup>rd</sup> & Massachusetts



Storm Water Crew - Replacing the culvert at Powerhouse Rd.



Asphalt Crew - Crack Sealing



Concrete Crew - Construction of a Pedestrian Cross Walk on Kasold at 27<sup>th</sup> St.



Levee Crew - Maintenance of the Boat Ramp at 8<sup>th</sup> and Oak St.



Storm Water Crew – Construction of Retaining Wall on Bob Billings Parkway