

STREETS

Goal

The Streets Section of the Public Works Department is responsible for keeping City-owned streets and landscaped surfaces maintained. The work includes keeping roads repaired, landscapes aesthetically pleasing, and streets swept often to keep debris from entering the storm system and to improve water quality. The Streets Section works to provide the infrastructure for the City to ensure safe, attractive, efficient and reliable public streets and rights-of-way for Kirkland residents.

Street Maintenance	MEASURE	2004	2005	2006	2007
Roads are Repaired	Total paved lane miles	351.1	351.8	352.3	352.3
So that.....	Road Rehab Expenses per paved lane mile	\$4,310	\$3,471	\$4,919	\$6,261
Roads are well maintained	Pavement condition index (PCI) ¹	70	*	*	*
Sweep Streets	Percentage of lane miles assessed as fair or better ²	90%	*	*	*
So that.....	Citizen ratings of road maintenance (satisfactory or better) ³	94%	*	95%	*
Streets are clean and storm drains are clear	Street sweeping expenditures per capita	\$3.12	\$4.42	\$4.12	\$3.79
So that.....	Street sweeping (tons)	592	517	497	600
Safe Streets and Improved Surface Water Quality	# of lane miles swept: Commercial Business District (per year)	500	500	500	500
	# of lane miles swept: Residential (per year)	3,744	3,744	3,432	3,432

¹The City of Kirkland uses the Washington State DOT method for objectively rating the pavement condition based on factors including cracking, patching, weathering, and rutting. Every 3 to 4 years the PCI ratings for the entire City's street network are updated. The last survey was performed in 2004.

²Based on 2004 PCI survey data; "fair or better" equates to a PCI of 40 or better. Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is a rating of the general condition of pavements and is based on a scale of 0 to 100. A PCI of 100 represents a newly constructed road with no distresses; a PCI below 10 corresponds to a failed road requiring complete reconstruction.

³Survey completed every other year

Analysis

There was a large increase in road rehabilitation expenses per lane mile in 2007. This increase was due to a larger overlay contract in 2007 than in prior years. Work was performed on a few arterials (NE 70th and 132nd Ave) which require more traffic control and there was an increase in construction and material costs. In 2006, a few streets were not completed due to utility conflicts and funds were carried over to 2007. In 2007, the City paved more square yards (SY), which used the whole overlay budget (2006 SY paved = 37,508; 2007 SY paved = 64,768).

STREET SWEEPING

Street sweeping is a service that the City of Kirkland provides to residents and businesses that can easily go unnoticed. The sweepers start out early in the morning, so by the time the downtown area gets busy the debris has been removed. In 2007, 600 tons of debris was removed from Kirkland streets.

Street sweeping has been provided by cities as a regular service since before the creation of the automobile. It used to be a manual service provided through the use of a broom and dust pan. Now it is provided mainly through a street sweeping truck and crew.



The City of Kirkland is dedicated to environmental stewardship and providing an excellent quality of life.

Street sweeping is provided for more than making the streets look clean. Street sweeping has also been shown to improve water quality, as the sweeper picks up waste that would otherwise go into the storm water system and eventually out to rivers and lakes.

The Streets section of the City of Kirkland sweeps commercial business districts 100 times a year or approximately two times per week. Imagine the state of the streets without this valuable service.