

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the election?

Tuesday, **April 5, 2016**. Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

What are the early voting dates?

If you are a registered voter in Norman, you can vote at the Cleveland County Election Board from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, and Friday, April 1, prior to the election. The Cleveland County Election Board is located at 641 E. Robinson Street, Suite 200. Absentee ballot applications can be obtained by contacting the Cleveland County Election Board by phone at (405) 366 - 0210 during business hours or go to www.clevelandcountyelectionboard.com.

What is the total amount of this bond program?

The total amount of this bond program is \$25,000,000.

What will be the effect on my tax rate?

The proposed street resurfacing/reconstruction program is basically a **continuation of the five-year street resurfacing bond program that was approved by the voters in 2005 and re-authorized in 2010**. Currently, the owner of a home with a market value of about \$100,000 is paying approximately \$5.75 per month in property taxes to repay these existing bonds (an average mill levy rate of 6.31 mills). If the 2016 proposal is approved by voters, this **estimated tax level will not increase as a result of the five-year bond proposal**.

How does this program compare to the City's most recent bond program?

Because the overall value of property in Norman has increased in the last five years (and is projected to continue to increase while the 2016 bonds are outstanding), more projects can be funded **while the per valuation tax assessment remains unchanged**. For example, the amount of taxes assessed per \$100,000 valuation for the 2016 bonds will remain unchanged from the taxes assessed per \$100,000 valuation for the 2010 bonds. When compared to the 2010 street resurfacing program, this street resurfacing program is larger, but the cost assessment to each individual's property tax should remain the same. The 2010 program had an estimated value of \$19M. The proposed 2016 program has an estimated value of \$25M.

How many total projects are included in the street maintenance bond program?

222 total street projects are included. Of those, 107 are concrete streets, 99 are asphalt streets, 11 are rural roads and 5 involve the reconstruction of existing residential neighborhood streets.

Where will the bond program have an impact?

The bond projects are located throughout Norman (see map on next page). The vast majority of the projects are targeted in residential neighborhoods as identified in a previous citizen satisfaction survey. Go to www.normanok.gov for additional details.

How does the City proposed to finance the bond program?

The City proposes to pay for the street improvements

through the issuance of general obligation bonds. The proposed bonds are to be paid off within five years from the time they are issued from proceeds of an ad valorem (property) tax. In order to be authorized, the majority of voters would have to approve the proposition.

Will the bond program result in higher City fees, utility rates or other service charges?

No.

Do the bond project budgets include costs for inflation?

Yes, the project budgets include the anticipated cost for inflation over the proposed five-year program.

How were the projects selected for the street maintenance bond program?

The City utilizes a computerized pavement management system that provides technical information regarding the condition of all city streets. That information is updated annually using field observations and testing procedures of city streets. The streets selected for this program are those that can be improved the most with the least expenditure of funds per mile. These streets will last many more years without extensive maintenance.

When will the projects begin?

If approved by the voters, the first street maintenance projects will begin by late summer or early fall of 2016.

What is the City's responsibility in completing the projects as they are identified?

By law, the City must provide the improvements at the specific locations identified in the bond ordinance and voted on by the citizens.

What other City funds used for street maintenance will the bond issue supplement?

Approval of the proposed bond will enable the City to perform a higher standard of street maintenance, but the City has other funding sources that are used to improve and maintain urban and rural roads. The annual Capital Improvements Program allocates funds for this purpose. The annual operating budget for the City Public Works/Streets Division allocates funds for the maintenance of city streets, as well. Passage of the bond issuance will accelerate those efforts to allow more timely improvements.

Do the City and Cleveland County work together on street maintenance for Norman?

The City of Norman and Cleveland County work together on the maintenance and rehabilitation of city streets in Norman through an interlocal agreement approved annually. In addition to routine maintenance, the proposed bond program will be able to rehabilitate twice as many rural roads in east Norman with the use of city and county labor and equipment than otherwise could be accomplished with contract services.

For additional information, please contact:

The City of Norman Action Center at (405) 366-5396 or Action.Center@NormanOK.gov or the City's website: www.normanok.gov.

PROPOSED STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed roadway improvements in the 2016 Bond election were developed using the city's Pavement Management Program which uses technical information to rate and rank streets based upon their condition. Some highlights of the proposed \$25,000,000 street maintenance projects are:

- Over 122 lane miles of streets improved
- 32% (\$8,000,000) of funds will be used for asphalt streets
- 36% (\$9,000,000) of funds will be used for concrete streets
- 12% (\$3,000,000) of funds will be used for rural roads
- Maximum use of in-house resources combined with contracted services
- 20% (\$5,000,000) in total reconstruction of streets
- Bicycle safety modifications where applicable
- Minor storm drainage improvements
- Handicapped accessibility will be prioritized
- Streets located throughout Norman
- Collaboration with Cleveland County

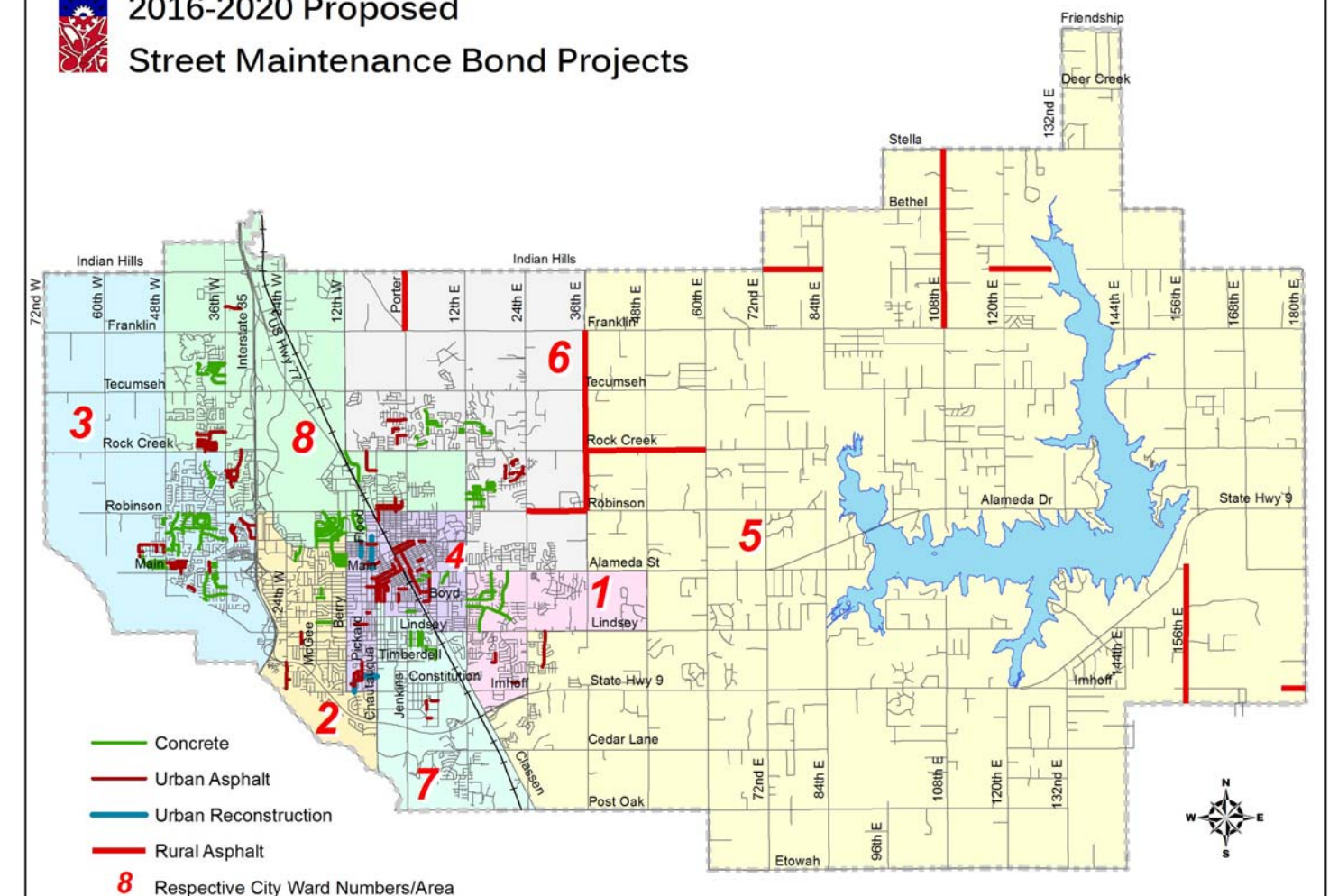


A typical street maintenance/rehabilitation project in a neighborhood might require 30 days for completion. Residents will be notified well in advance. Access to properties is maintained throughout the projects.



2016-2020 Proposed

Street Maintenance Bond Projects





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201 West Gray
Norman, OK 73070

City of Norman

Phone: 405.366.5396

Email: action.center@normanok.gov

Web: www.normanok.gov

Building an Inclusive Community

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit # 295
Norman OK



City of Norman

201 West Gray
Norman, OK 73069

Phone: 405.366.5396

Email: action.center@normanok.gov

Web: www.normanok.gov

STREET MAINTENANCE BONDS

Special Election April 5, 2016



Fast Facts

Special Election: April 5, 2016

\$25,000,000, **no increase over current tax levels**, to be used on over 122 lane miles of streets:

- 32% Asphalt Streets
- 36% Concrete Streets
- 12% Rural Roads
- 20% Total Reconstruction

Approval of this bond will:

- Provide funding for paving all City rural roads.
- Improve bicycle safety modification, as applicable
- Improve minor storm drainage
- Handicapped accessibility prioritized
- Include lighting, sidewalks/bikepaths, landscaping, related drainage improvements, driveway reconstruction, and other related improvements.

If approved by voters, the first street maintenance projects will begin by late summer/early fall of 2016.

On Tuesday, April 5, 2016, Norman residents will vote on whether to authorize the issuance of \$25 million in bonds to fund the resurfacing, rehabilitation and reconstruction of neighborhood streets in Norman over the next 5 years. In March 2005, Norman residents approved the first, 5-year Street Maintenance Bond Program in the amount of \$10,950,000. Again, in March 2010, Norman residents approved the second 5-year Street Maintenance Bond Program in the amount of \$19 million. According to 2009 and 2011 Citizen Surveys, Norman residents indicated that the maintenance of city streets and sidewalks is their top priority for improvements in city services.

The City of Norman maintains approximately 800 miles of streets throughout Norman, consisting of 66% urban streets, 30% rural roads and 4% other streets including highways. The City's Street Maintenance Program seeks to rehabilitate streets when they are in fair condition, because the repair costs are significantly less than the cost of total reconstruction of the street. To manage this program, the City utilizes a Pavement Management System first developed for Norman in 2000 by national expert Infrastructure Management Systems, Inc. (IMS). Each year, the City and IMS evaluate the condition of Norman's streets. That objective information is used to determine which streets are best suited for major maintenance, as well as the type of maintenance most needed in order to extend the life of each street.

The proposed 2016-2020 Street Maintenance Bond Program designates precisely

which streets will be improved. The program is divided into four categories: (1) Urban Asphalt Rehabilitation, (2) Urban Concrete Rehabilitation, (3) Rural Road Rehabilitation and (4) Urban Street Reconstruction. Of the proposed \$25 million in bond funds over five years, 80% or \$20 million is allocated to the urban asphalt, urban concrete and rural road rehabilitation projects. The remaining 20% or \$5 million is proposed for the total reconstruction of some of the worst neighborhood streets in urban Norman. Urban Norman is considered to be the area between 48th Avenue West and 48th Avenue East, Indian Hills Road north and the Canadian River south. By continuing the previous maintenance bond programs, voters will not see an increase in property tax levels as a result of this program.

PREVIOUS PROJECTS COMPLETED UNDER BUDGET

The 2005-2010 Street Maintenance Bond Program, authorized by Norman voters in the amount of \$10,950,000, provided for the maintenance and rehabilitation of 82 lane miles of urban streets and rural roads in Norman. All of the neighborhood streets designated in that program were completed on time and under budget.

The 2010-2015 Street Maintenance Bond Program, authorized by Norman voters in the amount of \$19M, provided for the maintenance and rehabilitation of over 200 lane miles of urban streets and rural roads in Norman. All of the neighborhood streets designated in that program will be completed in 2016 or by spring, 2017 and under budget.



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Special Election—STREET MAINTENANCE—Tuesday, April 5, 2016



Your Vote Matters

Polls are open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Special Election
Tuesday, April 5, 2016

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PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Norman, State of Oklahoma, incur an indebtedness by issuing its bonds in the sum of Twenty-Five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000) to provide funds for the purpose of reconstructing, repairing, improving, and rehabilitating existing streets, roads, and intersections in the City of Norman, Oklahoma (including lighting, sidewalks/bikepaths, landscaping, related drainage improvements, driveway reconstruction, and other related improvements); and levy and collect an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in said City sufficient to pay the interest on said bonds as it falls due, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof when due, said bonds to bear interest at not to exceed the rate of ten percentum (10%) per annum, payable semi-annually and to become due serially within five (5) years from their date?

YES—FOR THE PROPOSITION NO—AGAINST THE PROPOSITION