Thanks to voter approval in 2008, of Measure A, the City of El Cerrito is on the way to reaching the goal of repairing approximately 70% of El Cerrito streets by 2012. I’m excited to report that the work completed last year was a success. In 2008, crews repaired 500,000 square feet of potholes and other pavement failures, repaved the entire width of 19 City blocks, and constructed over 300 curb ramps.

This spring marks the beginning of the second phase of the program where many more streets will be resurfaced. This work will continue through the fall.

Please read the information in this brochure to learn more about the roadwork and how the City will keep you informed about any upcoming parking restrictions or detours in your neighborhood.

Also included in this brochure is information about the pedestrian safety improvements along San Pablo Avenue under construction in 2009-10 (not a Measure A funded project).

Finally, I want to invite you to a Street Improvement Program Open House on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at the El Cerrito City Hall (10890 San Pablo Avenue). Come by from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. or from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and learn more about the program, pick up the 2009 construction schedule, and ask questions about the work planned for your neighborhood.

We understand all residents and businesses will be impacted in some manner by the roadwork this year and we will make every effort to minimize inconveniences and provide advance notice so you can plan accordingly. Please regularly visit our website at www.pavingelcerrito.org to stay up to date on the progress.

If you have additional questions about the roadwork occurring this year or any other questions about the street paving program, please contact the City’s Street Paving Hotline at (510) 219-4155 or email paving@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Jerry Bradshaw,
City Engineer
CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULES AND IMPACTS

Coordinating El Cerrito’s accelerated Street Paving Program is a complex job. In 2009 alone, we plan to resurface about 28 miles of streets throughout the City. The work has been split into four different construction contracts:

- the 2009 Asphalt Rubber Cape Seal Program – “Cape Seal Program”
- the 2009 Rubberized Asphalt Concrete Overlay Program – “Overlay Program”
- the El Cerrito Pavement Rehabilitation Project – “Federally-funded Overlay Project”
- the San Pablo Avenue Streetscape Project

The map included in this mailer shows the streets scheduled to be repaired this year. The colors on the map indicate the four different construction contracts:

- Blue—Cape Seal Program
- Red—Overlay Program
- Purple—San Pablo Avenue Streetscape Project
- Green—Federally-funded Overlay Project

The Cape Seal and Overlay Programs will be the first to get underway. These projects (blue & red on the map) are planned to begin in May and be completed by September. These project will involve some substantial short-term inconvenience (such as parking restrictions and street closures) while streets are being resurfaced.

The San Pablo Avenue Streetscape Project will be the next project to get started (purple on the map). This project should get underway in June and continue through the winter into early 2010. Impacts to pedestrians and the travelling public should be minimal, but some short term parking restrictions, mainly at intersections along San Pablo Avenue, will be necessary.

The last project to get underway will be the Federally funded Overlay Project (green on the map). This project will likely get underway in July and be completed by September. The City received money from the Federal stimulus package (also called the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act”) for this work. This project will involve some substantial short-term inconvenience (such as parking restrictions and street closures) while streets are being resurfaced.

Residents and businesses will receive notice regarding any parking restrictions or detours in their neighborhoods prior to any roadwork. If your street is scheduled to be resurfaced this year, watch for future notices that will include specific start dates and exact impacts for your area and other information from the Contractor.
TYPES OF WORK...

RESURFACING WORK
Resurfacing will involve paving the entire roadway surface (from curb to curb) along one or more City blocks at a time. Streets being resurfaced this year will receive either a cape seal treatment, an asphalt concrete inlay or an asphalt concrete overlay, resulting in a durable, smooth, black roadway surface. The type of treatment used depends on the current condition of each street, as well as other factors. For example, streets that are structurally deficient will receive an asphalt concrete inlay (remove the existing pavement and replace with a new layer of asphalt), or an asphalt concrete overlay (a layer of new asphalt concrete added on top of the existing roadway). Streets without major structural deficiencies will receive a cape seal treatment (a thin layer of pebble-like material in an asphalt binder added on top of the existing roadway).

STORM DRAIN, CURB AND GUTTER REPAIR WORK
Drainage problems and badly damaged curb and gutter will be addressed on a number of the streets being resurfaced this year:

- The City will fix serious drainage problems on certain streets as part of the resurfacing work where serious drainage problems pose a threat to the integrity of the new pavement or where anticipated near-term storm drain repairs would require cutting into the new roadway.
- To ensure the integrity of the new roadway, some badly damaged or deteriorated curbs and gutters will be reconstructed by the City in 2009.

SAN PABLO AVENUE STREETSCAPE*
The City Redevelopment Agency is in the final stage of a multi-year project to enhance San Pablo Avenue. The goal of the project is to identify El Cerrito as a distinct place along the Avenue and create a better walking environment. The City Redevelopment Agency has already installed new signage, street banners, created Gateway Park (at Baxter Creek), as well as completed landscaping and irrigation renovations in existing medians. The Pedestrian Access Improvements along the Avenue, this year will include:

- Countdown pedestrian crossing signals
- In-pavement flashing crosswalks in some locations
- Eight additional crosswalks
- Enhanced street and pedestrian lighting at select intersections
- Improved bus stops with new benches, new trash and recycling bins, bike racks plus new lighting at select locations

*This project is funded by the El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency and various grants, not Measure A money.

PLEASE NOTE: Repairing and improving our streets is a large undertaking. You may experience some inconveniences during this period such as noise, dust, odor, short-term parking restrictions, and temporary street closures. We will provide advance notification about the roadwork, as well as do our best to complete the work as efficiently as possible while also trying to reduce these impacts.
COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

How can I find out what streets will be worked on this year?
The handy map on the other side of this page shows all the roadwork planned in 2009. You can also visit the Street Paving Program website at www.pavingelcerrito.org for more specific information.

What times of day will the work start and end?
Work on residential streets will typically start at 8 a.m. and finish by 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Will I be notified in advance?
Yes! Residents and businesses will receive notices five days before any work begins that will impact parking and/or access to driveways. Additionally, “No Parking” signs will be posted on the street five days in advance. We will also continue to keep you informed about the overall program via the website and periodic mailings.

How long will it take to repave my street?
That depends on what type of work is planned:
- Patch paving (localized repairs) can typically be repaired in a single day.
- Storm drain repairs as well as curb and gutter replacement can typically be completed within one week.
- Asphalt Concrete Inlay or Overlay treatments are typically done in one day and require lane closures.
- The Cape Seal treatment is typically done in one day and requires full street closure (curb-to-curb for up to a block at a time).
- Final striping takes a few hours and is typically applied 2-4 weeks after resurfacing.
- Please refer to www.pavingelcerrito.org for more details about the duration of work on the Avenue.

Will I be able to park or drive on my street when they are paving?
Generally, no. During resurfacing, an entire block may be affected and vehicles will not be allowed to drive on streets under construction or the newly resurfaced street. That means particular streets will be closed, either for just a few hours or all day. The street will re-open at the end of each workday. However, in some cases, parking restrictions may remain in place overnight. Preparatory work and storm drain, curb and gutter repairs typically do not require street closures, but may affect street parking on a limited basis.

What if there is an emergency?
Access for emergency vehicles will always be provided.

“Patch Paving” was done on my street last year, why isn’t it scheduled for resurfacing this year?
Most streets that were repaired last year will be resurfaced in 2009. However, some streets require more complex engineering and will be resurfaced next year.

Is this just a “quick-fix” or a long-term solution?
This is a long-term solution. The accelerated Street Paving Program is intended to bring all El Cerrito streets into good pavement condition by 2012. After the accelerated program is complete, the City will begin an ongoing Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program that will keep El Cerrito streets in good condition.

Additional Questions?
For more detailed information, go online to www.pavingelcerrito.org or contact us at: paving@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or (510) 219-4155.
2009 Street Improvement Program

Cape Seal Program
Overlay Program
Federally-funded Overlay Project
San Pablo Ave. Streetscape Project

*This map shows the schedule for the accelerated street paving program, current as of April 1, 2009. The schedule is subject to change, including the method and timing of work to be performed. Please refer to www.pavingelcerrito.org or call (510) 219-4155 for up-to-date information about your street.

**Portion of Map Reproduced with permission of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce
ANNOUNCING EL CERRITO’S 2009 ROADWORK PROJECTS

Thanks to voter approval in 2008 of Measure A, the El Cerrito Pothole Repair, Local Street Improvement and Maintenance Measure, the City of El Cerrito now has dedicated funding for a comprehensive street pavement repair and maintenance program. This program is an investment in El Cerrito’s future and a commitment to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for residents and businesses.

This brochure includes information about the roadwork scheduled for 2009 and other details.

Staff will be available to answer your questions at the Street Improvement Program Open House. Come by City Hall on Thursday, May 7, 2009 anytime between 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to learn more.

Additional Questions?
For more detailed information, go online to www.pavingelcerrito.org or contact us at: paving@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or (510) 219-4155.