



Town of Falmouth  
Public Works Department  
101 Woods Road  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
☎ 207.781.3919  
📠 207.781.7465

## Memorandum

Date: September 6, 2018  
To: Nathan Poore, Town Manager  
From: Jay Reynolds, Public Works Director  
Re: Route 100/Gray Road Pavement Condition

---

I am providing this memo to request supplemental funding to perform maintenance paving work on Gray Road. As we all are aware, The Town and State are planning a reconstruction project on Gray Road, which is tentatively scheduled to be advertised for bidding in late October of 2018.

Normally, I would not recommend expending money in advance of a reconstruction project to maintain the road. This maintenance paving would only be for the short term and would be removed as part of the Route 100 project. In this case, however, Gray Road, from Mill Road to Marston Street, is in very poor condition. The southbound lane is particularly bad. This segment of road has the worst roadway condition in the Town of Falmouth.

Because the Route 100 project will presumably not commence (on roadway activities) until the spring of 2019, and the uncertainty of the construction/bidding climate, Gray Road will remain in its' current condition for the next 8-months to 1-year. If bids are unfavorable, Gray Road may remain in its' current condition for longer.

In actuality, the pavement condition will continue to deteriorate. Winter will be more problematic than last winter. Last winter, the Town received numerous complaints about the condition of the road, for which Town resources were spent on attempting to maintain the road as best as possible. The Town also received two insurance claims for motor vehicle damages caused by potholes on Gray Road.

As you recall, at last week's public meeting, a 'show of hands' vote was held to gauge the public's level of support on spending approximately \$30,000.00 in the short term. My meeting notes showed the following results:

For=5;  
Against=11(+/-);  
No Vote=10(+/-).

Planning level estimates to place a thin coat of pavement over this segment of road total \$30,000.00. Town staff could further evaluate whether a lesser amount of paving could be done to minimize the costs. I would be happy to facilitate that if the Town Council is interested in that option.

In summary, my professional opinion remains that some level of maintenance and investment needs to be made in the short term. The following rationale applies:

- Paving/maintenance would make Gray Road safer to travel for all users.
- Paving/maintenance would also be beneficial from a customer service and public relations standpoint, by providing a more serviceable roadway to the travelling public.
- It would minimize the potential for liability through insurance claims.
- It would be more manageable and less expensive to maintain during the winter.

Thank you for the Town Council and your consideration of this request.