

Frequently Asked Questions

Proposed Road Seal Only Upgrade



What does the proposed seal upgrade involve?

The proposed upgrade offers an improved and permanent asphalt seal that will have greater durability and visual amenity than the existing trial seals. No drainage, kerb and channelling or footpaths would be included. The materials and design will alter street to street, as with any road build, depending on the specific needs of the street such as traffic levels and the existing strength of the road foundation. The proposed upgrade will follow the existing road width.

Once completed, the road will be incorporated into Council's sealed road network and maintained at Council's expense. Property owners will not be asked to contribute again for future road sealing costs.

The picture below is an example of how this type of upgrade may look.



How much does each property owner need to pay?

A contribution amount of \$4,000 per property is required for the upgrade to move forward. Please note that no payment is required at this time. The current survey is to determine if all property owners are supportive of the upgrade and willing to pay. If all property owners are supportive invoices will be issued in due course.

I can't pay \$4,000 all at once. What are my payment options?

For property owners who are unable to pay the contribution amount upfront, the following short term repayment options are available:

- repayment over **6 months** with an administrative fee of \$60 (total \$4,060)
- repayment over **1 year** with an administrative fee of \$240 (total \$4,240)
- repayment over **2 years** with an administrative fee of \$480 (total \$4,480)

Property owners experiencing financial hardship may be eligible for assistance in accordance with Council's Hardship and Financial Hardship Policy.

Council's Revenue Services Team can be contacted by calling 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.

How long would it be between the trial seal being removed and then new road being constructed?

If property owners are supportive of an upgrade, the removal of the trial seal and construction of the new road surface will occur at the same time. This means there will be no period in which the road is returned to an unsealed surface.

What will happen if not everyone agrees?

For an upgrade to proceed, all property owners must be supportive of the upgrade and be agreeable to pay.

If your street does not support an upgrade, the existing surface seal will be removed, and the road will be changed to a compacted layer of crushed rock.

If your street decides to pursue an upgrade in the future, a petition can be submitted in accordance with the Urban Roads and Drainage Improvement Policy. Please note that the fixed contribution amount of \$4,000 will no longer apply.

What is Council's contribution to the project?

With other upgrade projects, such as special charge schemes, Council contributes financially towards the benefits received by the wider community.

A fixed \$4,000 contribution per property has been introduced to provide property owners with a fair and reasonable upgrade opportunity, while ensuring Council also contributes for the benefit received by the wider community.

I pay rates, why am I being asked to pay for a road seal upgrade?

Council uses money from rates to provide many services, including road maintenance. However, this money does not cover new improvements like building unsealed roads, kerbs, footpaths, or drainage if they don't already exist.

Bass Coast Shire Council manages over 100kms of urban unmade roads with inadequate infrastructure, such as no sealed roads or formal underground drainage. The estimated cost of bringing these urban areas to a basic level of infrastructure was over \$250 million in 2024.

The Policy includes a one-off contribution amount of \$4,000 per property to have the road seal permanently upgraded at a discounted cost. This approach to road upgrades ensures a fair and equitable approach for all ratepayers across Bass Coast.

What happens next?

This survey is to determine if property owners are agreeable to pay for an upgrade.

If property owners are supportive of the upgrade, Council will send out invoices for payment in the later part of 2026. Further correspondence will be provided to property owners who have requested a payment plan.

If all payment is received, and authorised payment plans commenced, construction of the permanent road seal is anticipated to begin in mid to late-2027.

If property owners are not supportive of the upgrade, the temporary road seal will be removed as scheduled in early to mid-2027. Property owners will be provided advanced notice of the removal works.

I am worried that my neighbours will find out that I was supportive/not supportive of the upgrade.

We take your privacy very seriously.

The *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)* governs the way in which Council needs to responsibly collect, handle and protect personal information and ensure data security.

Council is not allowed to release your personal information, including whether you support or don't support the proposed upgrade. We will not share this information with your neighbours, even if asked.

You can find out more about Council's Privacy Policy on our website at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/policies

Our seal is in good condition, why can't it be kept with maintenance to fix the potholes?

An independent condition assessment of the remaining dust suppression seals around the Shire was completed in December 2025. The audit considered the condition of the road's surface based on defects like cracking, roughness, stripping, and pavement failures.

The results of this audit have found that these seals must be removed to ensure the roads remain safe and usable for our community.

How will wildlife and vegetation be protected during the works to remove or upgrade the seal?

During works, all efforts will be made to reduce impact on wildlife and vegetation.

Upgrades will follow the existing footprint of the existing seals and does not include works that impact the nature strip or surrounding reserves. There are no anticipated impacts on existing vegetation.

If vegetation removal is unexpectedly required, Council will apply for permits in line with all requirements.

Can we get drainage with our road seal/can we get speed humps and traffic calming measures installed?

The upgrade outlined in the Dust Suppression Seal Removal Policy involves only the construction of a road seal.

Streets wanting to explore other upgrades such as drainage and traffic calming would need to petition through the [Urban Road and Drainage Improvement Policy](#).

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

You can ask questions by calling Council's Customer Service Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211, or by emailing roadupgrades@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

Updates will also be provided on Council's Engage Bass Coast website at www.engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/dust-suppression-seal-removal.