

Understanding Improved and Unimproved Roads

Improved Road

Improved Road – An improved road is a road with curb and gutters which has a surface of concrete or asphalt.

Benefits:

- It is professionally engineered and constructed as a durable roadway.
- Provides for adequate drainage from the roadway.
- Once improved, an improved road is maintained by the City for any future road repairs.
- Improved streets with curbs are provided routine street sweeping and leaf pick-up each Fall, which allows residents to rake their leaves into the street at the curb.
- The average life span is 20 to 30 years.

Disadvantages:

- Initial one time higher cost for installation.

Unimproved Road

Unimproved Road – An unimproved road is a gravel road with or without curbs and gutters that has been treated with cape seal to provide a relatively smooth and dust free driving surface.

Benefits:

- Enhances rural neighborhood characteristics.

Disadvantages:

- The roadway is not professionally engineered and does not have a durable foundation.
- Unimproved roads without curbs do not provide adequate drainage from the roadway.
- Unimproved roads without curbs do not receive street sweeping and must bag their leaves.
- The average life span is 7 to 10 years and the need for repairs is more frequent.
- The cost for road repair and replacement is the responsibility of the homeowners on the street.



Improved Road



Unimproved Road



Unimproved Road with Curbs



Unimproved Road with Gutter