

# Road Tax Report



## All Across Evans

Working hard for a smooth ride



## The Road Ahead – more than just a slogan

In 2020, Evans voters gave their approval to a 1% sales tax to be used for road repair, rehabilitation, expansion, and improvement. By using sales tax as the means to generate this revenue, everyone who uses the roadways in Evans contributes to maintaining and upgrading the city's road network. This dedicated revenue stream is crucial to ensuring the ability to provide adequate roadways that contribute the livability of the city, help attract new businesses, and absorb the growth demands placed on this critical infrastructure.



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Mill & overlay work completed on 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. in 2025

## What kind of work is done?

Funding generated from *The Road Ahead* program is used to repair roadways using several different techniques.

**Concrete Replacement:** Replaces deteriorating concrete on sidewalks, pans, curb & gutter and installs new ADA ramps to be USDOT compliant.

**Chip-seal:** Applies a layer of asphalt binder and then a layer of crushed rock to create a skid-free surface; extends the life of the roadway with the protective layer.

**Mill & Overlay:** Removes the top layer of asphalt and replaces it with a new layer to remake the surface.

**Asphalt Reconstruction:** Removes the entire surface and, often, at least a portion of road base and replace with new base and surface. Often called full-depth reconstruction.

**Crack-seal:** Uses a highly durable sealant to fill in and cover separations between the asphalt surface and adjacent curb & gutter, around utility collars, and on the road surface itself. Prevents water seeping under the surface that causes extensive damage and more costly repairs.

Improving the roadways in Evans is not only about making upgrades to the surfaces of the streets and adjacent sidewalks, but also about improving the flow of traffic. Using funding generated by *The Road Ahead* 1% tax, in 2023 the city installed new traffic cabinets at seven major intersections. These cabinets included vastly superior hardware that allows for more efficient communication which helps improve traffic flow throughout Evans. Vinal wraps, from local artists Alonzo Harrison, Bradley Duncan, Julie Dillon, Macey Boren, Megan Ryan, and Will Dillon, were added to deter graffiti and give the otherwise bland cabinets an aesthetic appeal.



New traffic signal cabinet with vinal wrap

EVO Radar Installation completed in 2024



The upgraded cabinets represented one half of the technology upgrade to improve traffic flows. The second half came in 2024 when state of the art cameras were installed. Working with the technologically advanced cabinet hardware, these EVO radar systems provide precise detection of motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians in real time. This advanced technology is greatly beneficial in keeping traffic moving efficiently while also improving safety at the city's intersections.



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47<sup>th</sup> Ave widening project completed in 2021

Road maintenance work, more accurately known as pavement preservation, is a cost-effective way to extend the lifespan of streets in the city. Chip-seal, crack-seal and asphalt patch projects not only smooth out less heavily trafficked streets and create a safer, skid-free surface, they prevent water from seeping under the surface, preventing potholes, sinkholes and other damage to the subgrade. These projects can be done in small areas, much like concrete replacement work on sidewalks and on the curb & gutter areas. By addressing as small an area as needed, more work can be done across the city.



15th Ave. asphalt reconstruction in 2024

Chip seal work completed in 2022 in East Evans



Since voters approved *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax, every neighborhood in the city has seen at least some of its street network benefit from pavement preservation projects. Through the end of 2024, over 660 segments of concrete have been replaced, more than 400 asphalt patches of varying sizes have been completed and nearly 500 total segments of roadway have been protected with chip-seal work. These maintenance projects, while small when taken individually, add up to considerable improvement in the city's overall pavement condition index.

## Maintenance projects improve road quality and prolong lifespan

Since the inception of the *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax, chip seal work has been done all over the city. Streets were chip sealed in Grapevine Hollow, Neville's Crossing, Ashcroft Heights, North Point, Willowbrook, The Ridge, Platte Valley, Sundown, The Village, and East Evans. These repairs not only improve the quality of neighborhood streets for all uses, they also serve to prolong the lifespan of the road itself, saving money in the long-run.

Additionally, concrete work to remove and replace hundreds of segments of decrepit, deteriorating or unstable concrete in and along curb & gutter, pans, inlet decks and sidewalks as well as install brand new ADA ramps that will be fully compliant with current state and federal standards. This work improves the usability of street and sidewalk networks for motor vehicles, bicycles, roller skates and the like, and makes surfaces safer by removing tripping hazards.



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42nd St. asphalt reconstruction project

Upon receiving voter approval for *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax, the city resurfaced 37<sup>th</sup> Street from 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Highway 85. Simultaneously, design work began on expanding 37<sup>th</sup> Street to two lanes in each direction from the western city limits to 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue in central Evans. Given the costs associated with such a large-scale project, a phased approach over several years was the chosen course of action. In 2023, the roundabout and expansion from 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Sienna Drive was completed, the next segment from Sienna to Stampede Drive in 2024 and this year to 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue. In 2026, expansion work will take place between 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Arrowhead Drive.



23rd Ave. from 37<sup>th</sup> St. to 42<sup>nd</sup> St. expansion in 2022

Mill and overlay work on 49<sup>th</sup> St. in 2023



Just like with 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Evans major north-south avenues, where the majority of the city's commercial outfits are located, have also received considerable upgrades from *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax. 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue was expanded from a dirt road to a modern, four-lane arterial using funding from this source. Additionally, a segment of 49<sup>th</sup> Street that lies within Evans city limits was milled and overlaid in 2023. On the east side of town, Idaho Street was improved with a new asphalt surface. In 2025, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenues will be milled and overlaid and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street will undergo a full-depth reconstruction.

## Expansion projects improve traffic flow for current and long term needs

Weld County is not only the fastest growing county in Colorado, it is one of the fastest growing counties nation-wide. This high rate of growth will undoubtedly impact Evans, placing a greater demand on our transportation infrastructure, roadways most especially. Planning for the long-term requires effort now - if we fail to upgrade our streets to meet expected demand, Evans will become a less desirable place to life, work and play.

Therefore, we must upgrade our city's major east-west (37<sup>th</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> Streets) and north-south (11<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenues) thoroughfares. Since the inception of *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax, all of these roadways have received considerable attention. These upgrades, whether completed, underway or planned for, improve the quality of life for residents and help support our current and prospective businesses.



# Road Tax Report



37<sup>th</sup> St. widening project, Phase 2B, completed in 2024

In planning for these 2025 projects, \$5,000,000 was initially budgeted for the work on 17<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenues and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. After soliciting bids, the Evans City Council voted to approve a contract with Martin Marietta on Jan. 21, 2025 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$4,105,300. In line with the

city's new procurement policies, a subsequent contract with RockSol Consulting Group for \$163,462.06 to serve as construction manager for the projects was approved on March 4, 2025. After approval of these contracts, the city had \$731,237.94 remaining in the budget for 2025 Major Roads Projects and will be prospecting the feasibility of completing mill & overlay work on 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 32<sup>nd</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Streets.

This shift in strategy for using the city's annual street tax revenue will provide more bang-for-the-buck as significant stretches of major arterial roadways will be rehabilitated, work that serves to prolong their lifespan, improve traffic flow and help attract commercial development in the city's primary business corridors. It is also important to note that by using road tax revenue to complete



Completed mill & overlay work on 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Completed concrete work on 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave.



these large-scale, more expensive projects, work of this scope will occur every couple of years with remaining revenue dedicated to maintenance projects in neighborhoods.

## 2025 – A New Approach

Through strategic planning discussions in 2024, the Evans City Council made the decision to use funds generated by the 1% road tax for larger-scale projects that will provide a greater public benefit in 2025 and beyond.

It was decided that after many minor repairs had been made on collector and neighborhood streets all across the City since the inception of *The Road Ahead* 1% tax, that upgrades to three of the city's principal arterial thoroughfares would provide lasting impact on some of Evans' busiest streets, help attract and retain businesses, and contribute to improving the overall quality of life in the city.

After first tackling concrete replacement work along 17<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenues, both roads were milled & overlaid between 37<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street/Prairie View Drive underwent full depth reconstruction. With these projects scheduled to be completed in 2025, significant upgrades will have been made to 37<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Streets along with 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenues since 2020.



# Road Tax Report



To meet the demands of a growing city and remain a strong steward of taxpayer resources, the city strikes a balance using *The Road Ahead* revenue to perform maintenance work on existing street surfaces to prolong their lifespan and also expand existing roadways to handle current and future needs.

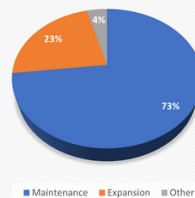
In the first years after *The Road Ahead* sales tax was approved by Evans voters, the city immediately began investing in maintenance projects that would improve existing streets. While city staff worked to plan and design expansion projects for the years ahead, nearly three-quarters of the funding went to maintenance projects from 2020-2023.

After finishing the design work required for the more complex expansion projects and completing an analysis of the pavement condition in Evans, more of *The Road Ahead* revenue was dedicated to these expansion projects. From 2024 through projections for 2027, a roughly 70/30 split in favor of expansion projects is anticipated.

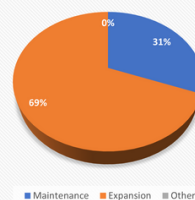
With projected revenues and expenditures accounted for, by the sunset of the tax, a roughly even split between maintenance and expansion projects will have been completed in the city.

Just under \$12.5 million (57.4%) of *The Road Ahead* revenue will have been used for expansion and just over \$9 million (41.6%) will have been used for maintenance by 2027, according to current plans.

Projects 2020 - 2023



Projects 2024-2027



## Road projects – an expensive but worthwhile investment

It is no secret that road projects can be costly. On average, one lane mile (one lane, for one mile) of roadway can cost as much as \$1 million for a municipality. This is precisely why a dedicated funding stream, like *The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax, is necessary for a small city like Evans. Everyone who stops and shops in Evans contributes to the upkeep and improvement of the city's street network, reducing the burden on property and business owners.



Idaho Street Improvements  
completed in 2022



# Road Tax Report



While Evans has a population of around 23,000 residents, thousands and thousands more pass through our city each day, stopping and shopping at our local businesses.

Additionally, heavy commercial vehicles, construction equipment, semi trailers and farm and ranch trucks also traverse our city on a daily basis. These heavy vehicles, in addition to ordinary passengers cars, put strain on our roadways.

The good news, however, is that every time anyone stops and makes a purchase, from filling up their gas tank, to grabbing a bite to eat, to stocking up on bulk items for their home, they are contributing to the upkeep and expansion projects on our City's roadways. The tax is such a small amount, just \$1 for every \$100 spent, but taken collectively over the course of a full year, add up to millions of dollars to support and improve Evans' street infrastructure.

That revenue is tremendously beneficial for the city considering that one lane mile of roadway can cost as much as \$1 million.

Prior to the creation of *The Road Ahead* sales tax, the city was only able to muster a few hundred thousand dollars per year from the General Fund for streets projects. Keeping this revenue stream flowing is critical to making Evans *the* Community of Choice in Northern Colorado.



DID YOU  
KNOW? 

## The Road Ahead Sales Tax expires in 2027

*The Road Ahead* 1% sales tax is set to expire in 2027. The Evans City Council has plans to ask voters to continue this valuable program for the benefit of the community. If the measure to continue this small tax is rejected by voters, the city will lose an absolutely critical revenue stream that provides the funds necessary to continue improving roadways all Evans.







City of  
**Evans, Colorado**