Pavement Treatment Costs

The degree of wear on a road determines the appropriate pavement treatment option. These range from a relatively inexpensive and simple application of asphalt emulsion to a much costlier ground-up reconstruction.

Fog Seal
Expected life: 4 Years
Cost: $1 - $2 per square yard ($35,200 per mile)
A light application of slow setting asphalt emulsion applied to the surface of a bituminous pavement. Fog seals are used to renew aged asphalt surfaces, seal small cracks and surface voids, or adjust the quality of binder in newly applied chip seals.

Chip Seal
Expected life: 7 Years
Cost: $4 per square yard ($70,400 per mile)
A surface treatment in which the pavement is sprayed with asphalt and then covered with aggregate and rolled. Chip seals are used primarily to seal the surface of a pavement with non load-associated cracks and to improve surface friction on low volume streets.

Micro Surface
Expected life: 7 Years
Cost: $5 - $6 per square yard ($105,600 per mile)
This treatment provides a “skim coat” of a restorative asphalt to the existing pavement surface, filling minor cracks and correcting pavement defects such as rutting and raveling when applied.

Mill and Overlay
Expected life: 15 Years
Cost: $14 per square yard ($246,400 per mile)
This process removes a defined thickness of the surface of the existing asphalt pavement, and after observed defects are corrected, the same thickness is replaced with new asphalt thereby returning the pavement to a nearly new condition.
This is the second most expensive pavement treatment option.

Reconstruct
Expected life: 20 Years
Cost: $45 per square yard ($792,000 per mile)
Complete design and pavement section replacement of an existing roadway.

There are 17,600 square yards in a mile of road that is 30 feet wide. Many Local roads are between 32 and 28 feet.