

1 AN ACT relating to county roads and declaring an emergency.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 179 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) As used in this section, "chip seal" means a pavement surface treatment that
6 combines one (1) or more layers of asphalt with one (1) or more layers of gravel
7 or fine aggregate.

8 (2) Beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2030, the Department of Rural and
9 Municipal Aid shall oversee a pilot project evaluating the use of chip seal on
10 gravel roads.

11 (3) Subject to the limitations in subsection (4) of this section, a county may use funds
12 allocated to it under KRS 177.320(2) to chip seal existing gravel roads in that
13 county's road system.

14 (4) The maximum percentage of county road aid funds a county may use in any
15 fiscal year to chip seal county roads under subsection (3) of this section shall be
16 equal to the percentage of roads in that county's county road system that are
17 surfaced with gravel on July 1 of that fiscal year.

18 (5) No later than October 31, 2027, and annually thereafter until October 31, 3030,
19 the Department of Rural and Municipal Aid shall submit a report to the
20 Legislative Research Commission for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on
21 Transportation on the chip sealing of county roads.

22 (6) The report required under subsection (5) of this section shall include:

23 (a) A listing of road miles chip sealed, by county;

24 (b) The cost per mile of chip sealing, by county;

25 (c) An evaluation of the durability of chip seal pavement; and

26 (d) An evaluation of chip seal pavement quality.

27 ➔Section 2. Whereas, the pilot project set out under Section 1 of this Act is most

- 1 efficiently and effectively administered at the beginning of the fiscal year, an emergency
- 2 is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect July 1, 2026.