Primary System Roads

Archuleta County Primary roads are those which are of greatest importance to intra-County transportation. The Primary road system is comprised of all roads which function as minor arterials, collectors, local access roads, rural access roads and recreational access roads. All of these functional classifications have criteria described by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

The following outlines the maintenance and other responsibilities of the County for a road which is included in the County Primary road system. For any person living or traveling on a Primary road, the following can be expected:

1. Routine maintenance: These are activities which *preserve* the life of a road. Gravel roads will receive blading and dust abatement as needed, full-depth mag chloride stabilization on a rotating schedule, and ditch, culvert and cattle guard cleaning. Asphalt roads will receive pothole patching and crack sealing, striping as necessary, and ditch and culvert cleaning.
2. Road Capital Improvement (RCI): These are activities which *extend* the life of a road. All roads in the County Primary road system will have capital improvements scheduled over a multiple-year schedule, determined by the condition and function of the road. The aim is to keep as many roads in the Good to Excellent range (OCI of 70 or above) of the life cycle curve as financially possible. Examples of RCI activities are re-graveling, overlaying asphalt roads (which includes chip seals), paving gravel roads, and reconstructing roads.
3. Snow removal: All roads in the County Primary system will receive snow removal on a priority schedule determined by the function of the road. This priority and associated map is described in the County Snow Removal Policy brochure, which will be available at the administration office, Public Works facility, and on the web site at www.archuletacounty.org.
4. Safety: All roads in the County Primary system will undergo an engineering study to determine appropriateness of and needs for signs and other outstanding safety issues. The study will evaluate traffic volumes, types and speeds, accident history, road function, surface type and width, and parking, pedestrian, and non-motorized traffic activities. Signs will be replaced on a routine schedule based on Federal retro-reflectivity standards.
5. Bridges: Any bridge on a road in the County Primary system will be inspected and photographed every other year to ensure it is maintained to a safe and operational standard.
6. Reconstruction: Any road or segment thereof in the County Primary road system undergoing reconstruction will be reconstructed to the design standard described in the Archuleta County Road and Bridge Design Standards for that road's functional classification.