



URMD

URBAN ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

Draft Annual Report 2013-2014

2013-2014 Highlights

The URMD Advisory Committee recommended and the Board approved funding for six [safety improvement projects](#) for 2013-2014. Over three fiscal years, since the Board authorized URMD safety improvements, URMD allocated nearly \$6 million toward safety improvement projects.

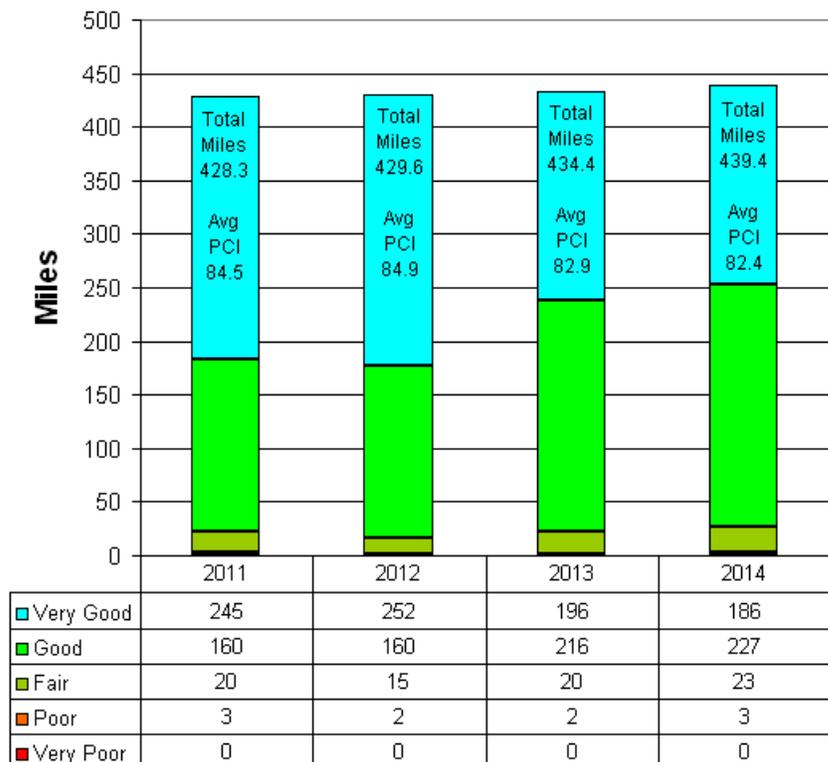
The 2013-2014 construction season marked URMD’s 20th year of pavement surface treatments. In 1994, the average Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating of URMD roads was 60, with 23% rated in “poor” or “very poor” condition. In 2014 the average PCI is 82, with under 1% in “poor” condition.

How well is URMD doing?

After completion of the 2013-2014 construction season, 6% of URMD road surfaces are rated in “fair” or worse condition. On a rating scale of 1 to 100, with 100 representing a brand new road, the average pavement condition rating (PCI) of URMD roads is 82, which is in the upper range of the “good” category.

In 2011, the Board adopted a target average PCI of 75 (with 90% at or above 65) for all URMD-eligible roads. As of 2014, 97% are at or above PCI 65.

URMD Pavement Condition



With the goal of reaching a system-wide average PCI of 75, the Urban Road Maintenance District Advisory Committee recommended a uniform and consistent maintenance spending strategy over the next ten years beginning in fiscal year 2013-2014. This maintenance strategy will be reviewed and adjusted annually as needed to achieve the target PCI.

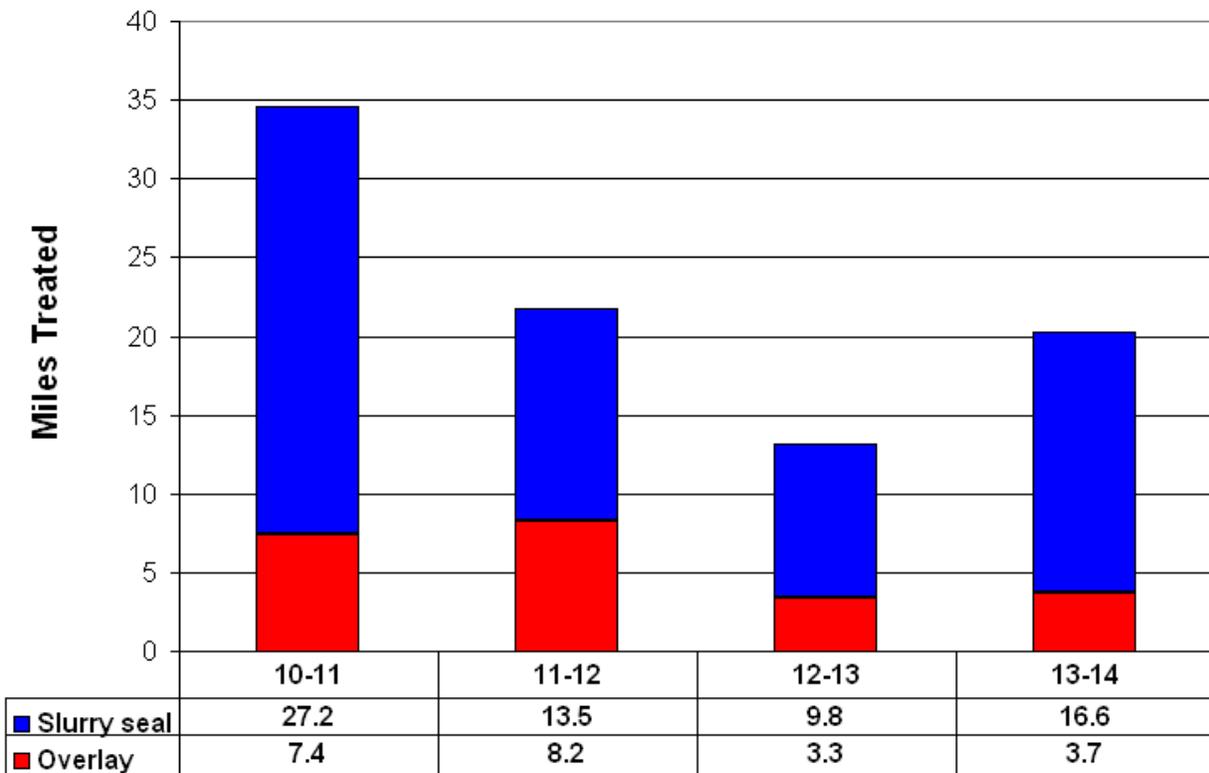
Related: [URMD Asphalt Overlay](#)
[URMD Slurry Seal](#)

Annual Road Maintenance Program

URMD roads are routinely inspected and scheduled for cost-effective and timely preventive maintenance. One-fourth of all URMD pavement surfaces are inspected and rated by an outside contractor each year.

Planned preventive maintenance activities are included in Washington County’s annual [Road Maintenance Program](#). The program is available online and is published for public review and comment prior to adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

URMD Surface Treatment History

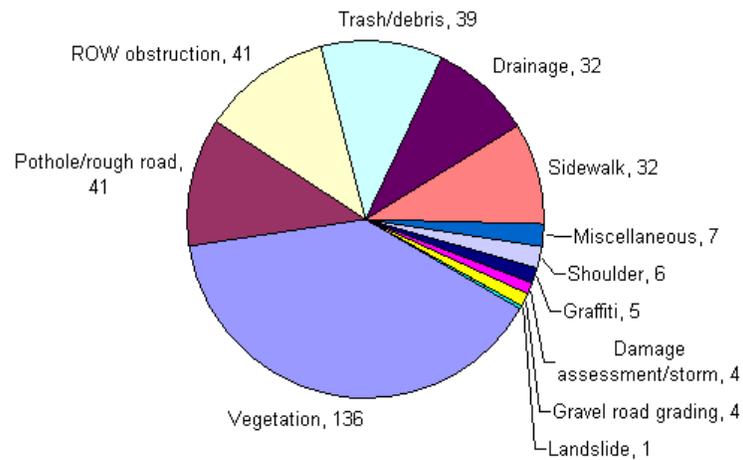


Service requests

In addition to pavement maintenance, URMD trims back vegetation when it encroaches into the roadway or blocks visibility, responds to reports of hazards in the right of way, picks up trash and debris, and responds to complaints about drainage and sidewalks.

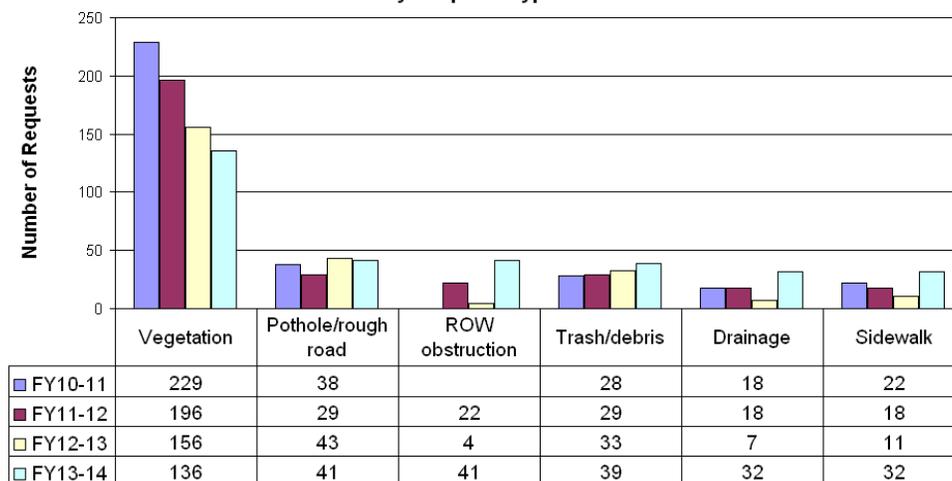
In fiscal year 2013-2014, a total of 348 requests for service were received.

URMD Service Requests 2013-2014



Citizens submitting a service request should receive a response within 7 days and work should typically be completed within 30 days. If the work cannot be completed within 30 days, an explanation and an estimated time of completion will be provided to the requestor. Vegetation continues to be the most requested service over recent years.

URMD Service Request Trends by Request Type



Financial status

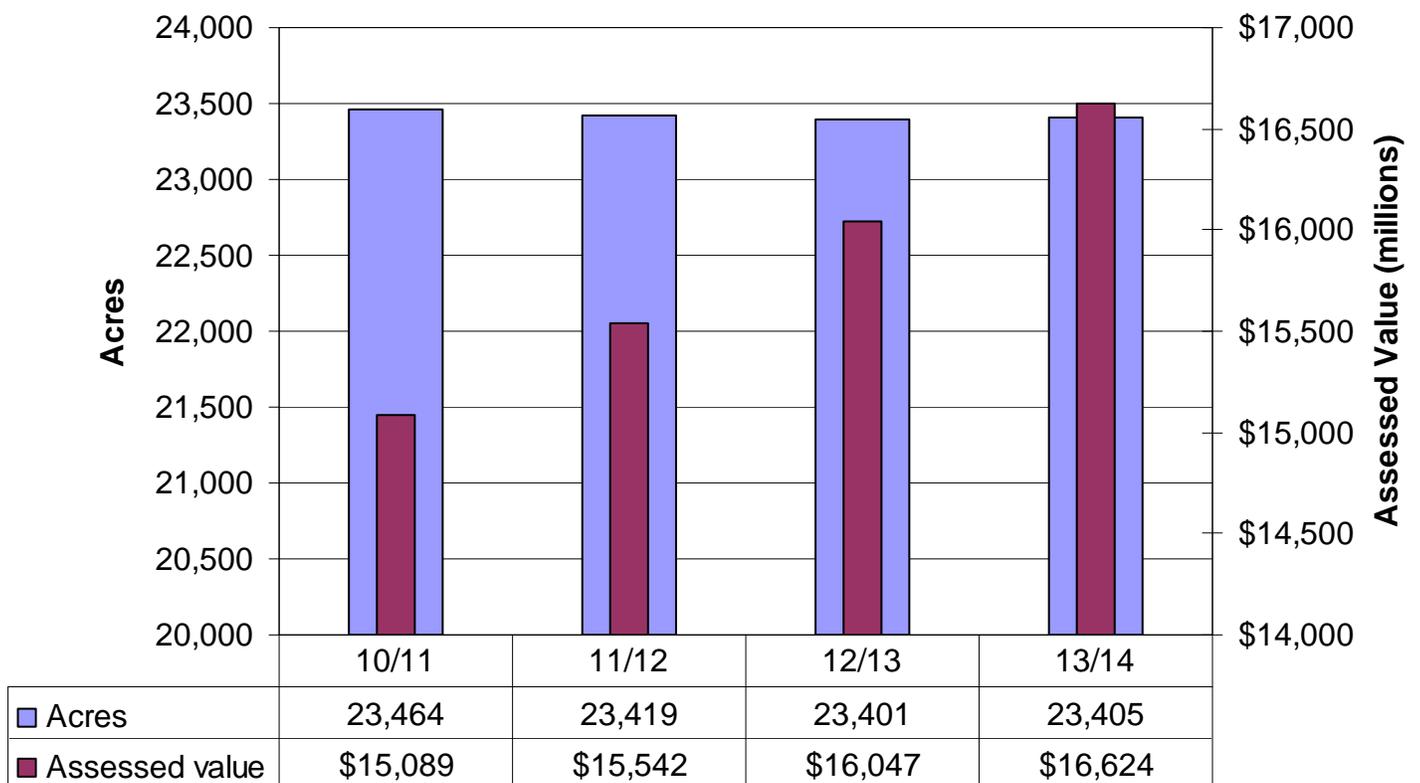
Revenue

In fiscal year 2013-2014, URMD received about \$4.1 million in revenue, primarily from the URMD property tax. Property owners in the URMD pay \$0.2456 per \$1,000 assessed value.

The number of acres within the District has remained relatively stable over the last four years, while the assessed value of property paying the URMD tax has grown about 10% over that same period.

New subdivisions in urban unincorporated Washington County are required to annex into URMD as a condition of development. Taxlots are withdrawn from URMD when annexed by a city. Assessed value generally increases at 3% per year, subject to adjustments and limits defined in Oregon law.

URMD Acres and Assessed Value



Expenditures

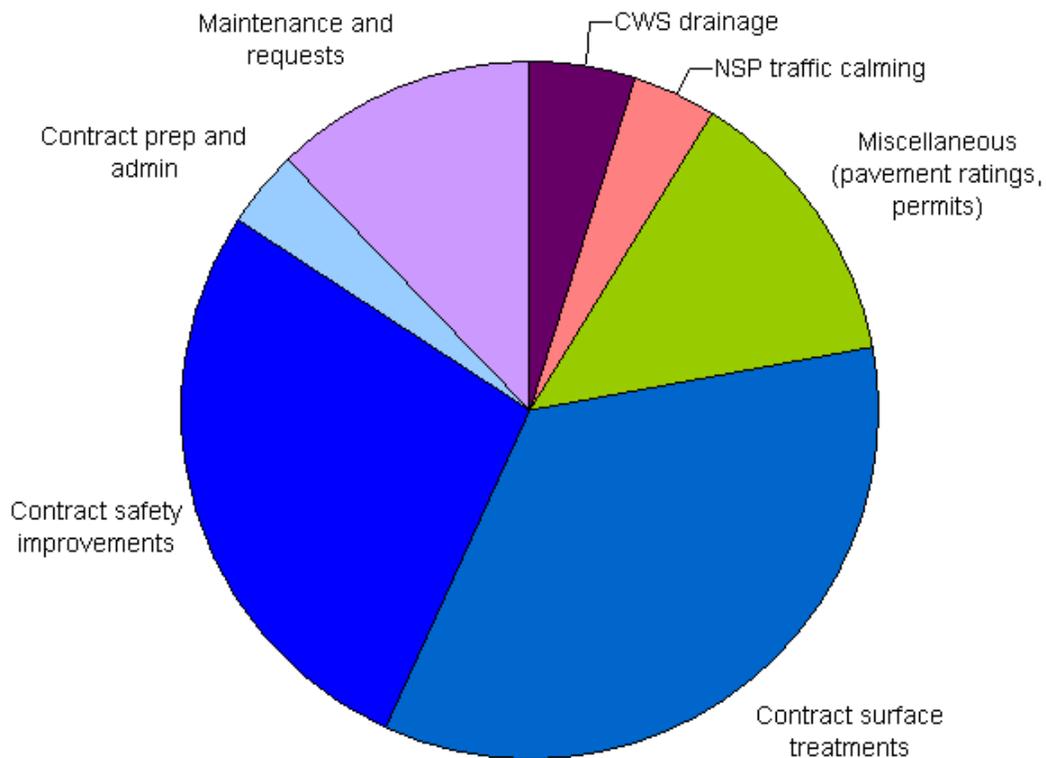
In fiscal year 2013-2014 URMD spent about \$3.1 million, of which about 67% was for contracted services and contract-related costs. Contract administration was equal to about 5.4% of contracted costs.

[Clean Water Services](#) provides storm water and drainage maintenance services along all URMD-eligible roads through an Intergovernmental Agreement. URMD provides CWS \$150,000 per year for these services.

URMD allocates \$250,000 a year to the county's [Neighborhood Streets Program](#) (NSP). The NSP coordinates and pays for traffic calming activities on local neighborhood roads.



2013-2014 URMD Expenditures \$3.1 million



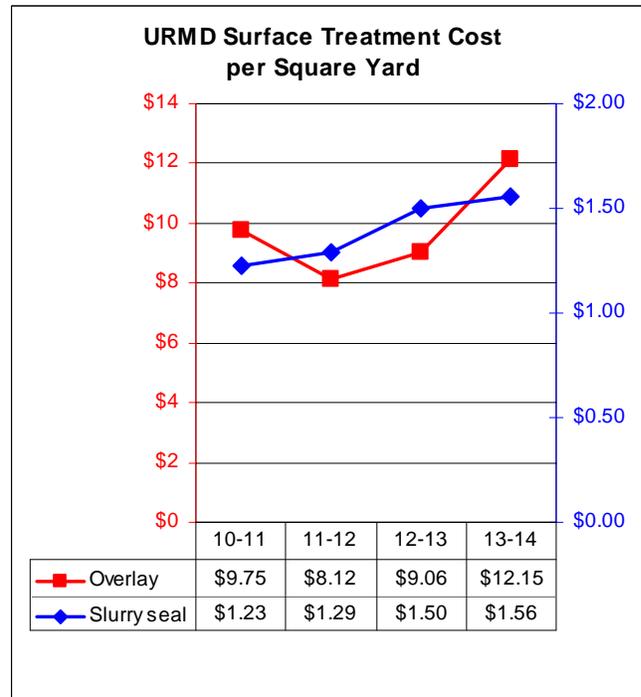
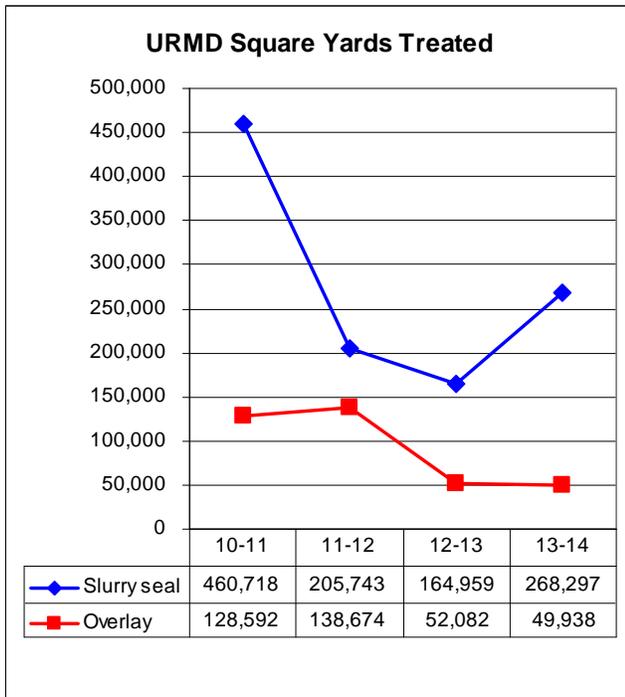
Fund Balance

At the end of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, URMD had a fund balance of \$9,266,481.

Cost Trends

The unit costs for asphalt overlay paving and slurry sealing are affected by general industry economic trends, as well as economy of scale: in general, the greater the quantity of work, the lower the unit cost.

Over the last four years, the unit cost for overlay has increased 25% while the unit cost for slurry seal has increased 27%.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is URMD?

URMD is the funding mechanism for maintenance of urban local roads outside of cities. URMD was created by the Board of County Commissioners and approved by voters in urban unincorporated Washington County in 1987. URMD is a county service district, formed under ORS Chapter 451.

At the time URMD was formed, urban local roads had deteriorated due to lack of funding for preventive maintenance. The intent was to fund maintenance to prevent further deterioration, protect the traveling public, enhance property values and promote economic development.

What does URMD cost?

Voters in the urban unincorporated area approved an ad valorem property tax levy of \$0.365 in 1994, which became a permanent rate of \$0.2456 upon approval of Ballot Measure 50 in 1997.

Property owners in the URMD pay \$0.2456 per \$1,000 assessed value. The owner of a home with an assessed value of \$200,000 pays less than \$50 per year for URMD.

What is URMD's purpose?

URMD's primary mission is to provide preventive road maintenance services for public roads within URMD boundaries, except roads that are designated as Arterials or Collectors on the Washington County [Transportation Plan](#).

As of November 2011, URMD funds may also be used to fund safety improvements on public roads within URMD boundaries, including county roads that are designated as Arterials and Collectors.

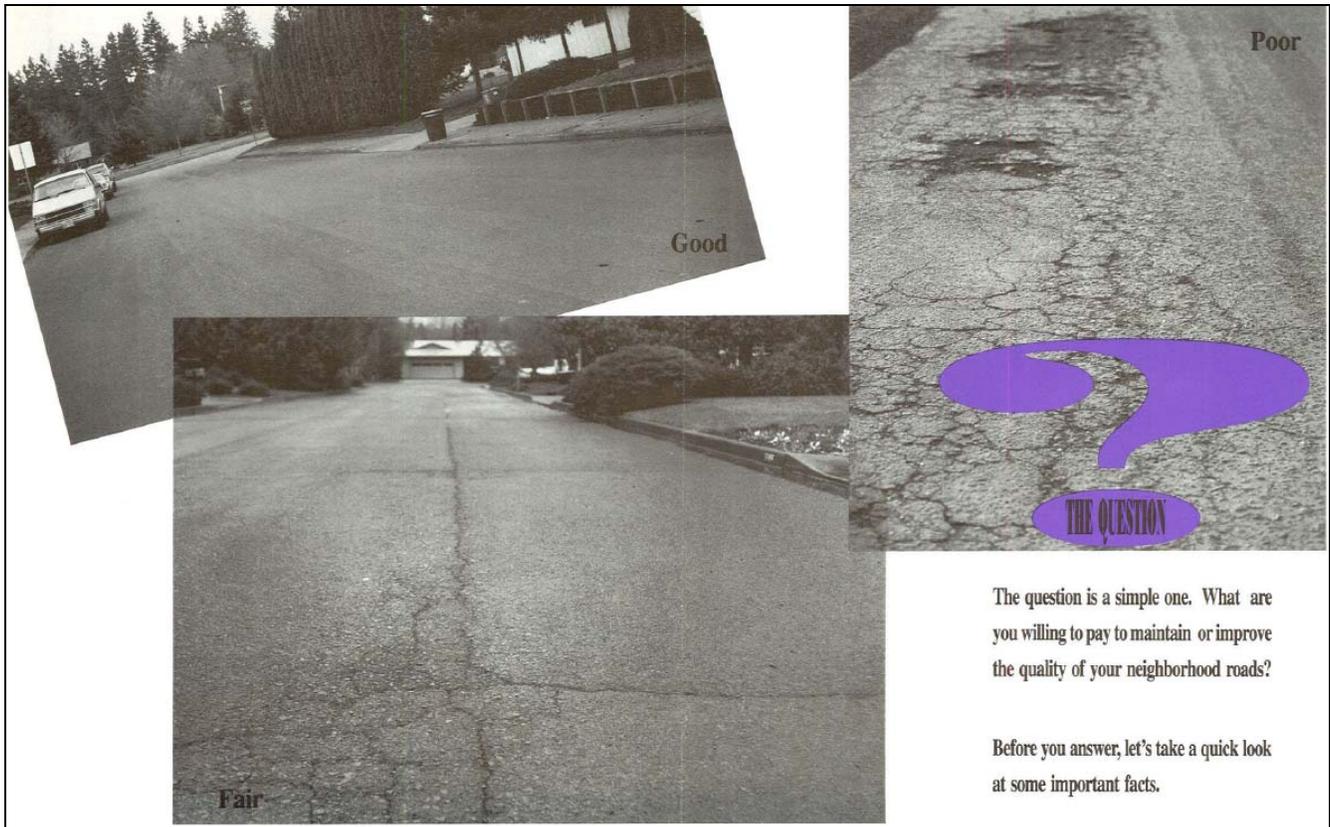
Is URMD effective and sustainable?

The County Auditor completed a Performance Evaluation of URMD in 2009, which concluded that URMD is:

- Meeting its original objective of improving urban local streets to fair or better condition.
- Using resources efficiently.
- Effectively maintaining the roads.

- Sustainable at the current property tax rate for the next 10 to 15 years, if assumptions hold true.

The audit findings and recommendations documents are [available online](#).



From 1994 URMD election brochure

How are decisions made about URMD?

The County Auditor's URMD Performance Evaluation recommended that a citizen advisory committee be formed to confirm URMD performance objectives and review periodic performance reports.

The [Urban Road Maintenance District Advisory Committee](#) (URMDAC) advises the Urban Road Maintenance District's Board of Directors ([County Board of Commissioners](#)) and staff on matters related to road maintenance provided by URMD. URMDAC reviews and makes recommendations regarding service levels, annual road maintenance programs, and safety improvements; assists in evaluating the cost effectiveness and efficiency of URMD; and advises on continuation of URMD and/or other long-range funding opportunities for road maintenance.



How can you request service or report problems on URMD roads?

Residents, property owners, and users of URMD-eligible local neighborhood streets may inquire about or request URMD services or report road problems to:

Washington County
Department of Land Use & Transportation
Operations & Maintenance Division
1400 SW Walnut Street
Hillsboro, OR 97123
Phone: 503-846-ROAD (846-7623)
FAX: 503-846-7620
e-mail: lutops@co.washington.or.us
www.co.washington.or.us/urmd



An [online web form](#) and a [smart phone app](#) are also available to request a service or report a road-related problem.

To report a hazardous road condition outside of normal business hours, call the [Washington County](#) non-emergency response number: **503-629-0111**.

Your feedback is important to us. Please let us know what we did well and how we can improve. Visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/URMDcustomer>