

## **Alley Maintenance**

### **Who provides maintenance to alleys?**

- The Fargo Street Department is responsible for both gravel and paved alley maintenance. To report issues or concerns, please call 241-1453 or **email us** ([publicworks@fargond.gov](mailto:publicworks@fargond.gov)).

### **Why does water stand in my alley?**

- Gravel alleys without storm sewer inlets are designed so that water drains off the surface of the roadway to one side of the alley, and then to the street. It is difficult for the Street Department to control where water stands due to adjacent property levels. This may mean that water will stand on private property if it is lower than the alley, or will stand on the alley surface if private property is higher than the alley, impeding flow to the street. Obstructions within the alley such as overgrown vegetation also slow the flow of water. Adjacent property owners are responsible for clearing these types of obstructions. Material in-fill and continued grading may be necessary to ensure water is able to drain to one side of the alley or the other. Gravel alleys require significant time and materials to maintain properly.

### **Why does it seem like my alley is not being maintained?**

- Parking within the alley right-of-way, as well as obstructions in the right-of-way, make it difficult to perform general maintenance. Vehicles, overgrown vegetation, garbage cans and dumpsters impede efforts to maintain road surfaces, and cause inefficiency and increased costs of operations. At times, several trips to these locations are necessary when attempting to provide service. Being aware of where you are parking and removal of other items will greatly assist the department in completing required maintenance in a timely fashion. If it is difficult to get through the alley with your vehicle, it is impossible for a motor grader.
- Wet conditions (heavy rains and early & late snowfalls in winter) provide an environment that is not conducive to proper maintenance. When alleys are in this condition, our equipment causes extreme damage that we will continue to address for months. In these circumstances, staying out of the alleys with our equipment is the best maintenance.
- City of Fargo personnel do not maintain alleys that are private. These alleys are the responsibility of the adjacent property owners. If you are unsure if an alley is private, feel free to call our department for clarification.