



The Asphalt Pavement Alliance is a partnership of the Asphalt Institute, National Asphalt Pavement Association, and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations.

MEDIA RELEASE

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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2021 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has won a 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Conversion (PPA) for a 9.5-mile Extended Life HMA/Rubblization project on Interstate 70 from milepost 136 to 146 in Clark County. This joint venture of Howell Paving, Champaign Asphalt and Howell Asphalt was completed in 2003. In the award's inaugural year, this is the first PPA: By Conversion for IDOT, an early adopter of the rubblization process. IDOT previously earned a PPA: By Performance.

"Working with our industry and research partners, the Illinois Department of Transportation is constantly exploring and innovating with its use of materials," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "This award validates those efforts, in addition to providing the public with an impressive new road in an important part of our state. I congratulate our team on a job well done."

To qualify for this prestigious award, the pavement must be an asphalt road constructed over an existing road that meets strict Perpetual Pavement criteria. The pavement must demonstrate the characteristics expected from long-life asphalt pavements: excellence in design, quality in construction and value for the traveling public. Engineers at the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) evaluated the nominations and validated the winners.

The four-lane award-winning section of I-70 was constructed by Howell Paving, Champaign Asphalt (now part of Open Road Paving Company, LLC) and Howell Asphalt. The original surface was a continuously reinforced concrete pavement with an asphalt overlay. After milling to remove the overlay, the existing concrete was rubblized providing a structural base and a drainage layer. It was then paved with an extended life asphalt.

This section of I-70 meets the criteria for a PPA: By Conversion and will continue to serve the travelers in Illinois well into the future requiring little maintenance. IDOT was honored by APA and the Illinois Asphalt Pavement Association (IAPA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk on May 10, 2022.

"The Illinois Department of Transportation is honored to receive the Asphalt Pavement Alliance's 2021 Perpetual Pavement By Conversion Award for the I-70 Extended Life HMA/Rubblization project in Clark County," said Charles Wienrank, Pavement Design Engineer in the Bureau of Research. "The performance of this project has far exceeded design projections. This route

carries nearly 50% heavy trucks, yet remains very smooth with minimal rutting after nearly two decades.”

“One key indicator of quality in construction is a smooth, long-life pavement,” said Amy Miller, P.E., National Director of the APA. “Long-life asphalt pavements serve the community, reduce the money needed for maintenance, and conserve raw materials, ultimately leading to a truly sustainable structure that exemplifies the triple bottom line. Asphalt roads can be engineered to last indefinitely with only routine maintenance and periodic surface renewal. Perpetual pavements use fewer natural resources and offer road owners and users what they want most – an economical, smooth pavement that serves the community for decades.”

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance is a coalition of the National Asphalt Pavement Association, the Asphalt Institute, and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations. The Asphalt Pavement Alliance’s mission is to establish asphalt as the preferred choice for quality, performance and the environment.

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The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (www.driveasphalt.org) is a partnership of the Asphalt Institute (AI), National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations. The Asphalt Pavement Alliance’s mission is to establish asphalt as the preferred choice for quality, performance and the environment.

The Asphalt Institute (www.asphaltinstitute.org) is the international trade association of petroleum asphalt producers, manufacturers and affiliated businesses. AI promotes the use, benefits and quality performance of petroleum asphalt, through engineering, research, marketing and educational activities.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (www.asphaltpavement.org) represents the interests of U.S. asphalt producers/contractors before Congress, federal agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities.

The State Asphalt Pavement Associations (www.sapainc.org) represent the interests of asphalt pavement producers and paving companies at the state and local level across the United States.