



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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## **KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS FIRST PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD**

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has won a 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Design (PPA) for a 4.08-mile section of U.S. 281 from State Milepost 145.01 to State Milepost 149.03 in Russell County. This two-lane project was completed in 2021. In the award's inaugural year, this is the first PPA: By Design for KDOT.

To qualify for this prestigious award, the pavement must be a newly designed and constructed asphalt road built over new or reconditioned subgrade that meet 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 award-winning section of U.S. 281 was constructed by APAC Kansas Shears Division, A CRH Co., as part of Transportation Works for Kansas (T-WORKS), an \$8 billion, 10-year transportation program. Steve Borchers from WSP USA, Inc., is the Engineer of Record. Approximately 2 miles of this two-lane vital truck route was reconstructed on an offset alignment around a geological slide area that had previously caused issues on the highway.

This section of U.S. 281 meets the criteria for a PPA and will continue to serve the travelers in Kansas well into the future requiring little maintenance. KDOT will be honored by Kansas Asphalt Pavement Association (KAPA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk.

"The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is pleased and honored to have received national recognition by means of the KDOT's first Perpetual Pavement Award for Design," said Kevin Zimmer, Area Engineer for District 3 in Northwest Kansas. "US-281 is a vital truck route to the area connecting the oil/gas fields and agricultural and freight products to the region. This corridor of US-281 will continue to see upgrades made to it through continued KDOT highway transportation programs and we are excited to see the improvements."

"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](http://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](http://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](http://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.sapa-inc.org](http://www.sapa-inc.org)) represent the interests of asphalt pavement producers and paving companies at the state and local level across the United States.