



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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NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2021 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) has won a 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance (PPA) for a 4.68-mile section of two-lane Highway 1 from mile marker 2.65 to mile marker 7.33 in Cass County. This roadway is more than 59 years old. NDOT has earned five PPAs: By Performance since the program began in 2001.

To qualify for this prestigious award, a pavement must be at least 35 years old and never experienced a structural failure. The average interval between the resurfacing of the winning pavement must be no less than 13 years. 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 SR 1 was originally built in 1931 as a gravel roadway that was 1.5 to 3 inches thick. In 1962, a 3-inch asphalt concrete surface course was added to the highway. NDOT resurfaced the project with 4 inches of Type B asphalt in 1985.

This two-lane highway currently has a daily traffic count of approximately 1,900 vehicles per day, and the estimated loading since the original construction is approximately 1.2 million equivalent single-axle loads (ESALs).

The road has performed well during its 59 years of use and has served the traveling public in Nebraska well. As it has only been resurfaced one time since 1962, the pavement exceeds the minimum average interval of 13 years required to win the PPA.

“The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) is honored for the selection of Highway 1 at Reference Posts 2.65 to 7.33 in Cass County for the 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance category,” says NDOT’s Materials and Research Engineer, Brandon Varilek. “This section of roadway exemplifies the benefits of good design and construction practices that have allowed the roadway to reliably serve the public and agricultural community with minimal maintenance costs.”

“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.