



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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## **NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2021 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD**

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has won a 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance (PPA) for both directions of a 3.3-mile section of four-lane divided Interstate 287 from milepost 35.5 to milepost 38.8 in Morris County, originally constructed in 1968. This is NJDOT's third PPAs since the program began in 2001 and first since 2003.

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 I-287 was constructed over 53 years ago. The original pavement consisted of a silty-sand subgrade, 10-inch subbase of graded sand, 8 inches of crushed stone base, 7 inches of HMA base course and a 3-inch HMA surface course.

This roadway currently has an annual average daily traffic (AADT) of 203,900 vehicles. The estimated loading since the original construction is over 59 million equivalent single-axle loads (ESALs).

As the years between resurfacing have averaged 17 years and the thickness has increased only 2 inches, this section of I-287 easily meets the criteria for a PPA: By Performance and has served the traveling public in N.J. well since 1968. NJDOT will be honored by New Jersey Asphalt Pavement Association (NJAPA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk.

“The New Jersey Department of Transportation is extremely proud and honored to be selected by the Asphalt Pavement Alliance to receive the 2021 Perpetual Pavement Award for the I-287 resurfacing in Morris County,” said Snehal Patel, Assistant Commissioner of NJDOT Capital Program Management. “This project is evidence that good coordination, design, materials, and construction practices can result in roadway pavements that minimize maintenance costs and meet the high-performance traffic demands well into the future.”

“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.