



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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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2022 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) has won a 2022 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance (PPA) for an 8.2-mile section of State Route 52 in Geneva County. This two-lane pavement earned ALDOT its 14th PPA: 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.

Although this roadway was constructed in 1937, construction records were not available until 1965. At that time and again in 1983, the award-winning section of State Route 52 was overlaid with 100 lbs/yd² of a wearing course. Then in 1999, the project was milled to a depth of two inches and resurfaced with 300 lbs/yd² of a binder course followed by 145 lbs/yd² of a surface course.

As the years between resurfacing since 1965 have averaged 19 years with only an increased thickness of 3.87 inches, this section of State Route 52 easily meets the criteria for a PPA: By Performance and will continue to serve the traveling public in Alabama well for many more years with minimal maintenance. ALDOT will be honored by the Alabama Asphalt Pavement Association (AAPA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk.

“The Alabama Department of Transportation Southeast Region is delighted by the selection and national recognition of SR-52 in Geneva County for a 2022 Perpetual Pavement Award,” said Chris Huner, Southeast Region Troy Area Operations Engineer for ALDOT. “This section of SR-52 is a vital link between communities in western Geneva County. SR-52 literally provides the means that drives the economy of Geneva County. Through the efforts of ALDOT and its contractors, SR-52 has proven to be a sustainable pavement that functions as a Perpetual Pavement, never needing to be removed and replaced.”

“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 (www.driveasphalt.org) 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 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.