



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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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS TWO 2022 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARDS

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration has won a 2022 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance (PPA) and a Perpetual Pavement Award: By Design. This is the eighth PPA: By Performance in Maryland since the program began in 2001 and second consecutive PPA: By Design for MDOT since the award's inaugural year in 2021.

For both prestigious PPAs, the pavements must meet strict Perpetual Pavement criteria and 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.

To qualify for the PPA: By Performance, 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. MDOT earned this award for a 3.55-mile section of Interstate 97 in both directions in Anne Arundel County. This four-lane roadway was opened to traffic in 1986. Interstate 97 connects U.S. 50 to Interstate 695 (Baltimore Beltway) and serves as the primary connection between Annapolis and Baltimore. The roadway has a current average daily traffic count of 97,725 vehicles and an estimated loading since the original construction of approximately 77 million equivalent single-axle loads (ESALs). This award-winning roadway has only been resurfaced once in 1994 with a total thickness increase of just 1 inch.

To qualify for the PPA: By Design, the winning pavement must be a newly designed and constructed asphalt road built over new subgrade that meets strict Perpetual Pavement criteria. A 4.57-mile section of Maryland Route 404 westbound in Talbot County earned MDOT their second PPA: By Design. The projected average daily traffic (ADT) in 2035 is 21,525 vehicles with 14% of them being trucks. Completed in 2017, this project was constructed by David A. Bramble Inc. and STV, in joint venture with WBCM, was the engineering firm.

“The State Highway Administration is thrilled to have been presented with these prestigious industry accolades highlighting Perpetual Pavement Award by Performance for I-97 in both directions between Crownsville Road and Waterbury Road and the Perpetual Pavement Award by Design for westbound MD 404 between Newtown Road and the Queen Anne’s County line,”

said MDOT SHA Administrator Tim Smith. “Every day, we’re committed to providing reliable and innovative ways to connect our customers to life’s opportunities.”

Both sections of Interstate 97 and Maryland Route 404 easily meet the criteria for a PPA and will continue to serve the travelers in Maryland well into the future requiring little maintenance. MDOT will be honored by the Maryland Asphalt Association and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk for each winning project.

“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.