



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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MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2022 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) has won a 2022 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Performance (PPA) for a 9.63-mile section of State Route 16 in Yazoo County. This is MDOT's seventh 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 State Route 16 was originally opened to traffic in 1948, the staged construction, from when the project was evaluated as meeting Perpetual Pavement criteria, was completed in 1982. This two-lane highway is the primary artery connecting Yazoo City to Interstate 55 and is critical for the transport of agricultural goods out of the Mississippi Delta.

As the years between resurfacing have averaged 17.5 years, this section of State Route 16 easily meets the criteria for a PPA and will continue to serve the travelers in Mississippi well into the future requiring little maintenance. MDOT will be honored by the Mississippi Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA) and presented with an engraved crystal obelisk.

"What an honor it is to receive the Perpetual Pavement Award for the SR 16 project. This recognition is a testament to the dedication and expertise of our team at MDOT," said Commissioner Willie Simmons, Central Transportation District. "We are committed to delivering high-quality, long-lasting infrastructure that ensures the safety and efficiency of our transportation network. The SR 16 project exemplifies our commitment to excellence and will serve as a model for future projects. I am proud of our accomplishment and grateful for this prestigious recognition."

"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.