

## Asphalt Pavement Alliance www.DriveAsphalt.org

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance is a partnership of the Asphalt Institute, National Asphalt Pavement Association, and the State Asphalt Pavement Associations.

MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release June 22, 2023

For more information, contact: Amy Miller, P.E., 904-591-3333 or amiller@asphaltroads.org

At OTA, Oklahoma Transportation Strategic Communications Division, 405-521-6000 or scinbox@odot.org

## OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY WINS FIRST PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) has won a 2022 Perpetual Pavement Award: By Design (PPA) for the Kickapoo Turnpike in Eastern Oklahoma County. This 21-mile, four-lane project was completed in 2021. This is the first PPA: By Design for OTA.

To qualify for this prestigious award, the pavement must be a newly designed and constructed asphalt road built over new or reconditioned subgrade that meet strict Perpetual Pavement criteria. 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.

Located between Interstate 40 and Interstate 44, the award-winning turnpike was designed to mitigate traffic congestion in Oklahoma City as part of the state's Driving Forward initiative. It was constructed by Haskell Lemon Construction Co. and T.J. Campbell Construction Co. and collaboratively designed by Poe & Associates Inc., CEC, EST, MKEC, MacArthur Associated Consultants, and Olsson.

Kickapoo Turnpike meets the criteria for a PPA and will continue to serve the travelers in Oklahoma well into the future with little maintenance required. Oklahoma Asphalt Pavement Association (OAPA) will present OTA with an engraved crystal obelisk.

"The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is honored and pleased to be recognized with the Perpetual Pavement Award for design and construction of this new route in Eastern Oklahoma County. All the credit goes to the OTA personnel, consultants and contractors who helped deliver a quality product that significantly enhances our state's transportation system," said Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation and OTA Executive Director Tim Gatz. "We're extremely proud of this new reliever route connecting the I-40 and I-44 corridors in the Oklahoma City metro area as it will serve motorists well for years to come."

"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 (<u>www.driveasphalt.org</u>) 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.

###

The Asphalt Institute (<u>www.asphaltinstitute.org</u>) is the international trade association of petroleum asphalt producers, manufacturers, and affiliated businesses. All promotes the use, benefits, and quality performance of petroleum asphalt, through engineering, research, marketing, and educational activities.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (<u>www.asphaltpavement.org</u>) 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 (<u>www.sapainc.org</u>) represent the interests of asphalt pavement producers and paving companies at the state and local level across the United States.