



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2024 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD**

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Arkansas Department of Transportation District 4 has won a 2024 Perpetual Pavement by Conversion Award for Interstate 530, Section 5 in Jefferson County.

The Perpetual Pavement by Conversion award honors agencies that demonstrate outstanding design and construction practices, specifically in constructing new asphalt roads over existing roads. To qualify for this prestigious award, the converted pavement must meet Perpetual Pavement design criteria: the completed project must have asphalt mixture binder and surface layers and be at least two miles in length--municipal roadways must be at least 1,200 feet in length. A National Center for Asphalt Technology engineer evaluated the nominations and validated the winners.

The Arkansas Department of Transportation received the award for its Interstate 530 project in Jefferson County. The project converted nearly six miles of four-lane divided highway from jointed Portland cement concrete pavement to Perpetual Pavement., using an advanced technique, rubblization. Breaking down the 10 inches of existing concrete pavement into a flexible base, which was then overlaid with asphalt. Completed in 2017, this high-traffic corridor serves an average of 28,000 vehicles daily, including 11% truck traffic. The conversion to Perpetual Pavement was chosen to address the area's challenging poor soil conditions while minimizing future disruptions to travelers. This pavement solution reduces the need for frequent maintenance operations, ensuring smoother long-term traffic flow on this high-speed corridor.

"Asphalt roads can be designed, built, and maintained to indefinitely prevent deep distresses," said Dr. Buzz Powell, P.E., Technical Director of the APA. "The resulting Perpetual Pavement structure is an excellent investment for taxpayers because it only requires periodic surface renewal, has the most preservation options, and never requires reconstruction. Advantages of Perpetual Pavements include durability, economics, sustainability, and smoothness. The smoothness advantage of asphalt pavements is indefinitely extended with Perpetual Pavement since deep distresses that cause roughness never occur."

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance ([www.driveasphalt.org](http://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](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.sapainc.org](http://www.sapainc.org)) represent the interests of asphalt pavement producers and paving companies at the state and local level across the United States.