



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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## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY WINS 2024 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD**

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Illinois Tollway has won a 2024 Perpetual Pavement by Design Award for the reconstruction of Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90).

This award honors agencies whose outstanding design practices on their roadway networks meet Perpetual Pavement design standards. To qualify for this prestigious award, 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 Illinois Tollway won the award for its three-year roadway and bridge reconstruction project on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). This 14.1-mile section of I-90 was reconstructed using a pioneering approach: the use of fractionated reclaimed asphalt pavement and reclaimed asphalt shingles. The pavement structure features a rich-bottom hot mix asphalt (HMA) base, multiple stiff dense-graded HMA interlayers, and stone matrix asphalt surface layers. The new pavement handles an average of 36,320 vehicles daily, with 30% truck traffic, and is projected to support 57 million trucks over 15 years. True to its Perpetual Pavement design, the tollway has required only minimal maintenance—longitudinal crack sealing and patching—with no full-depth patching needed, confirming the absence of pavement fatigue.

“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.