



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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For more information, contact:  
Buzz Powell, 904-446-0758  
or [bpowell@asphaltpavement.org](mailto:bpowell@asphaltpavement.org)

At Monroe County Road Commission, Matthew Snell, 734-240-5143  
or [msnell@mcr-mi.org](mailto:msnell@mcr-mi.org)

## **MONROE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION WINS 2024 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD**

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Monroe County Road Commission has won a 2024 Perpetual Pavement by Conversion Award for the Samaria Road Improvement Project in Monroe County, Michigan.

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 Monroe County Road Commission received the award for improvements to Samaria Road in Monroe County, Michigan. The project included full-depth reclamation, where existing Portland cement concrete pavement was removed and replaced with a more flexible pavement system. Instead of discarding the old materials, the concrete was crushed and repurposed. A reclaimed asphalt pavement was stabilized with a portion of the aggregate base to create an asphalt-stabilized base layer, which was then topped with two layers of hot mix asphalt. The pavement remains in excellent structural condition despite significant increases in traffic volume. The road, which initially handled an average of 3,000 vehicles daily with 13% commercial traffic in 2014, now serves an average of 4,350 vehicles daily with 20% commercial traffic. Engineering analysis confirms the new pavement meets Perpetual Pavement requirements, validating the project's long-term sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

“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.