



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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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WINS 2024 PERPETUAL PAVEMENT AWARD

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) announced today that the Michigan Department of Transportation has won a 2024 Perpetual Pavement by Design Award for the westbound segment of I-96 in Wayne County.

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 Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) won the award for a 2.25-mile westbound segment of I-96 in Wayne County, MDOT's first Perpetual Pavement demonstration project. Constructed in 2005 with lime-stabilized subgrade, open-graded drainage course, sand subbase, and stone matrix asphalt top course, the road serves approximately 150,453 vehicles daily. Echelon paving was used on most lanes, although the non-echelon paved longitudinal joints required early crack sealing and partial repairs. After 19 years, the pavement received a mill and resurface treatment in the summer of 2024. Despite early joint issues, performance has exceeded expectations. With this recent maintenance, the pavement is projected to deliver another 12-15 years of service before requiring additional work, fulfilling its promise as a true Perpetual Pavement designed to last for decades.

“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) 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.