



# National Road Research Alliance & MnROAD Overview

April 2024

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**MnROAD Operations Engineer**  
**NRRRA Executive Director**

# MnROAD and NRRA

- **MnROAD**
- **National Road Research Alliance**
- **MnROAD NCAT Partnership**
- **Partnership Highlight**
  - Preservation Study - Inplace Recycling as the example project



**Focus on People, Data, and Partnership Opportunities**

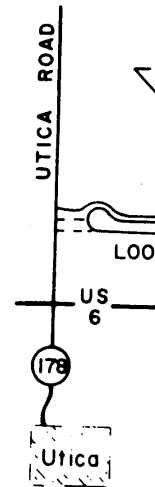


# MnROAD – why was it really built?



# MnROAD Early History

- **AASHO Road Test (1956-58 built – traffic loadings from 1958-60)**
- **Need for Local Calibrations**
  - MnDOT started Investigation 183 / Flexible Designs (Started 1960's)
  - SHRP/LTPP started for national efforts (8/8/1988)
  - Idea of a cold regions testing facility (1980's)
- **MnROAD Development**
  - Development of Support
    - Getting 25 million in 1990
  - Soil Foundation
  - Instrumentation
  - 1992 and 1993 Construction
  - August 2, 1994 Traffic





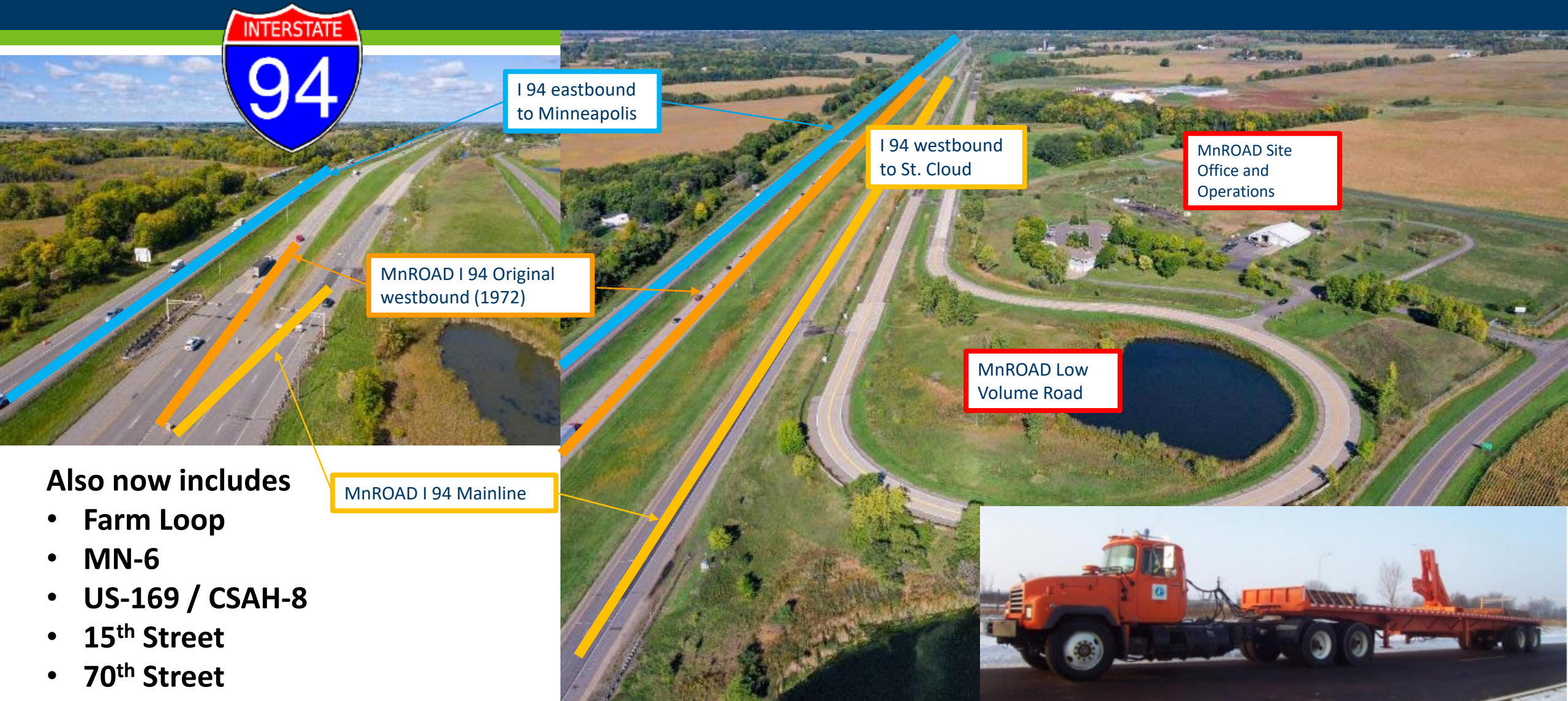
# MnROAD Background

- **MnROAD Owned and Operated by Minnesota DOT**
- **HMA and PCC Research**
- **30 Years of Long-Term Customer Service**
  - Minnesota Department of Transportation
  - Minnesota Local Road Research Board
  - SHRP II / NCHRP / FHWA / Partnerships
  - Pooled Funds Efforts (States) / Industry
- **Major Experiments**
  - Phase I (1994-2006)
  - Phase II (2007-2016)
  - Phase III (2017-2022) – NRRRA/NCAT
  - Phase IV (2022) – NRRRA/NCAT
- **MnDOT Funded Construction**
  - Used to support 2018, 2022, 2024 NRRRA research efforts





# MnROAD- Minnesota Road Research Facility



## Also now includes

- Farm Loop
- MN-6
- US-169 / CSAH-8
- 15<sup>th</sup> Street
- 70<sup>th</sup> Street
- + Others

mndot.gov

Mack Tractor (93406) with Fruehauf Trailer (93410)

# MnROAD Research Team

- **Experienced Research Staff**
  - 27 Road Research under Jeff Brunner
    - Working in both MnROAD and Other Areas
  - Active Maplewood Lab and Materials Engineers
- **MnROAD Operations**
  - Ben Worel, PE
  - Emil Bautista, PHD, PE
  - Joseph Podolsky, PHD, PE
  - Michal Vrtis, PHD, PE
  - Jacob Calvert, PE
  - Jeff Tabery
  - Craig Nolden
  - Dan Roushar
  - Jesse Shank
  - Troy Huebner
  - Steve Olson





# MnROAD Data Overview

- **Performance Monitoring**
- **List is missing**
  - Albedo Measurements
  - Drone Videos
  - Road Doctor with GPR
  - Detailed Forensics
  - Rolling Weight Deflectometer
  - Rolling Density Meter
  - Many others
- Working towards greater automation

Each Data type has detailed information on the equipment and data collection used

Measurement	Frequency	Comment
Aging Samples	1 / year	Cores taken to monitor aging of HMA mix and PCC joint condition
Distress Survey	2 / year	
		Modified LTPP Survey on all cells
Dynamic Load Testing	4 / year	Dynamic load testing of sensors. Loading from MnROAD truck and FWD.
Joint Faulting/ Shoulder Dropoff	2 / year	Use an automated Georgia Faultmeter per modified LTPP protocol
Friction	1-2 / year	KJ Law profiler, grip tester and dynamic friction tester used
Falling Weight Deflectometer	8 / year	Testing schedule varies throughout the year. Routine and special testing on HMA and PCC.
HMA Rutting/ Crack Cupping	3 / year	Advanced Laser Profile System (ALPS) used to characterize rutting and crack cupping
Noise	3 / year	On Board Sound Intensity (OBSI) measurements and sound absorption
Piezometer	4 / year	Monitoring well measurements
Permeability	2-4 / year	Test permeability of pervious/porous test cells
Ride Quality	2-4 / year	Pathways and lightweight profiler
Sound Absorption	3 / year	
		Sound absorbtion measurements.
Surface Texture	1 / year	Sand Patch and Circular Texture Meter



# MnROAD Sensors

- **Sensors**

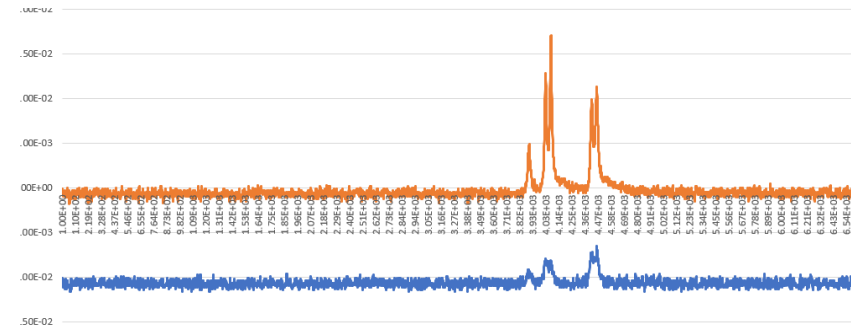
- MnROAD Data Collection Network
- ~15,000+ Sensors Installed
- Static (every 15 min)
  - Temperature
  - Moisture
  - Joint Opening
  - Concrete Maturity
  - Environmental Stain
  - Pressure
  - Ground Water
  - Frost Depth



Each Data type has detailed information on the equipment and data collection used

- **Dynamic Data**

- Live Traffic Loading - Controlled Loading
- Earth Pressure Cells
- Pore-Water Pressure
- Asphalt and Concrete Stains
- Displacement



# MnROAD has a lot of data at 15 min over 30 years

- TC\_VALUES – Thermal Couple
- Database Rows per year (couple examples – we have data for all years since 1993)
  - This is the data for every 15 min over the years / divide by 4 for hourly data counts

		TC_VALUES_2000	36,313,454	TC_VALUES_2010	33,361,302	TC_VALUES_2020	36,628,516
		TC_VALUES_2001	36,325,871	TC_VALUES_2011	36,104,073	TC_VALUES_2021	34,737,282
		TC_VALUES_2002	36,030,290	TC_VALUES_2012	36,961,766	TC_VALUES_2022	25,537,210
TC_VALUES_1993	219,082	TC_VALUES_2003	34,983,990	TC_VALUES_2013	37,419,772		
TC_VALUES_1994	4,361,834	TC_VALUES_2004	34,846,369	TC_VALUES_2014	39,391,812	Current years data goes to (2023 is the current year)	
TC_VALUES_1995	7,888,437	TC_VALUES_2005	34,798,633	TC_VALUES_2015	39,484,608		
TC_VALUES_1996	9,036,303	TC_VALUES_2006	31,924,999	TC_VALUES_2016	37,557,349	TC_VALUES	3,129,907
TC_VALUES_1997	9,307,036	TC_VALUES_2007	22,583,576	TC_VALUES_2017	34,827,131		
TC_VALUES_1998	37,118,997	TC_VALUES_2008	17,021,130	TC_VALUES_2018	36,282,500		
TC_VALUES_1999	32,969,266	TC_VALUES_2009	31,009,700	TC_VALUES_2019	36,860,342		



# NRRA Development

## • History

- 4 state consortium (CA, MN, TX, WA)
- Frozen Four (IL, MI, MN, WI)
- TERRA (IA, MN, MI, NY, NY, WI)
- NRRA

## Benefits

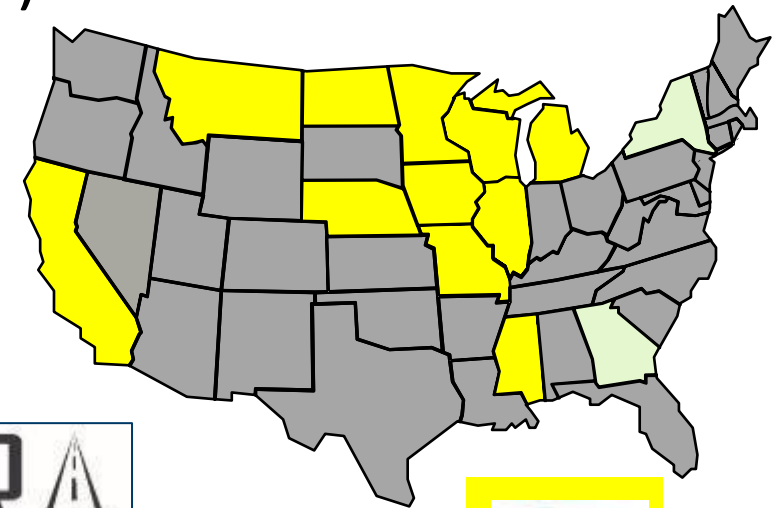
- Strength in numbers
- Less costly for doing research
- Allow states to cross borders
- Less project duplication (we all don't do the same project)
- Greater Communication (State/Consultant/University/Associations)
- Buy-In (everyone is apart of the process)
- Shared Resource (MnROAD)



# NRRA Pooled Fund Membership Commitments

## TPF-5(466) - Fee Structure / year (five years)

- **Phase-1 complete (5 yr) – Now into Phase-2 (year 2/5)**
  - **13 Full Agency Commitments (yellow)**
    - \$75K /\$150K Annual Commitment
    - 11 States, Illinois Tollway, LRRB
    - FHWA is also a contributing partner
  - **2 ICT Commitments (Green)**
    - \$25K (ICT Team only – Veta Efforts)
    - GA and NY
  - **~85+ Associate membership**
    - 2K/year - Associations, Industry, Consultants, Universities
- 
- The logo for the National Road Research (NRRR) program. It features the letters "NRRR" in a large, bold, blue font. Below this, the words "National Road Research" are written in a smaller, orange font. At the bottom, a tagline "Strategic Implementation Through Cooperative Partnerships" is written in a very small, blue font. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin blue rectangular border.





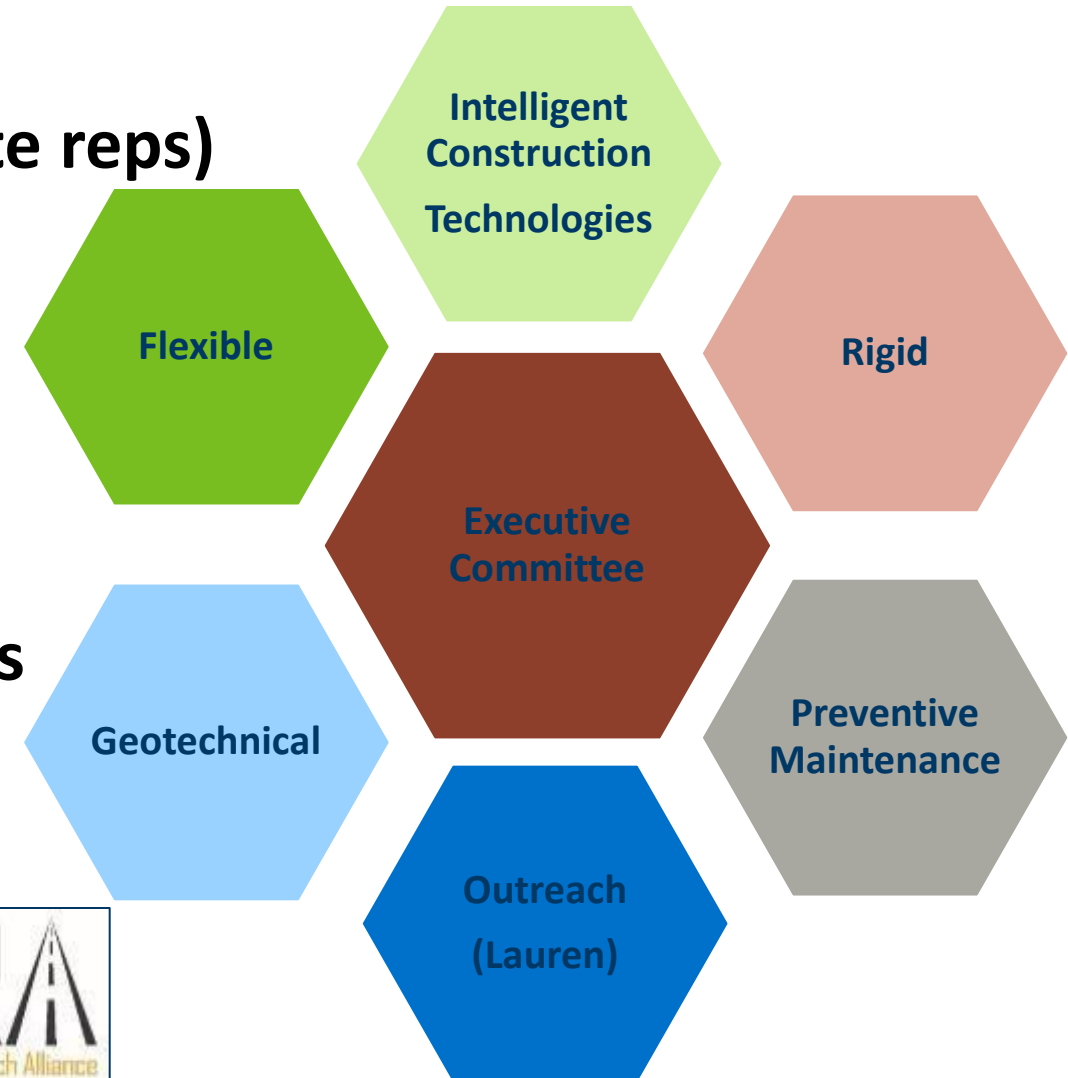
# NRRA Current Activities

- **NRRA has averaged ~\$1 million research/year**
- **NRRA Funded 48 projects (phase1) and 29 projects (phase2)**
  - Short and long term research
  - Multiple Universities and Consultants Contracted
- **NRRA Project Development**
  - Ideas developed and prioritized in technical teams
  - Executive Committee reviews and approves
- **2017 & 2022 MnDOT provided MnROAD construction funding**
- **2024(+) MnDOT has budgeted 1 million annual I-94 construction funding**



# NRRA Organizational Structure

- **Executive Committee (2 reps/agency)**
- **5 Technical Teams (agency and associate reps)**
  - Technical Chairs
  - MnDOT Representative
- **MnROAD Facility Utilized as needed**
- **Outreach is done in the technical teams**
  - Lauren Dao, MnDOT





# NRRA – Outreach Activities

## Monthly

- Research Pays off Seminars (online)
- Team Meetings (online)
  - NRRA General Updates
  - Project Status Reports
  - Common Topic of Interest

## Yearly

- Transportation Research Board (2 per agency)
- NRRA focused Meeting (2+ per agency)

## NRRA Website

- Best Information on Team Members and Funded Project Tracking



# NRRA – Executive Committee Membership

## Caltrans

Reimond Garcia\*  
Tom Pyle\*

## FHWA

Steve Cooper  
Peter Eakman

## Illinois

Brian Pfeifer\*  
Charles Wienrank\*

## Illinois Tollway

Dan Gancarz\*  
Cindy Williams\*

## Iowa

Chris Brakke\*  
Jeff De Vries\*

## Michigan

Kevin Kennedy\*

## Minnesota

Jeff Brunner  
Lauren Dao  
Duane Hill\*  
Ben Worel\*

## Minnesota LRRB

Jim Foldesi\* (St. Louis  
County)

## Mississippi

Alex Middleton\*  
Cindy Smith\*

## Missouri

Brett Trautman\*

## Montana

Oak Metcalfe\*  
Matt Needham\*

## Nebraska

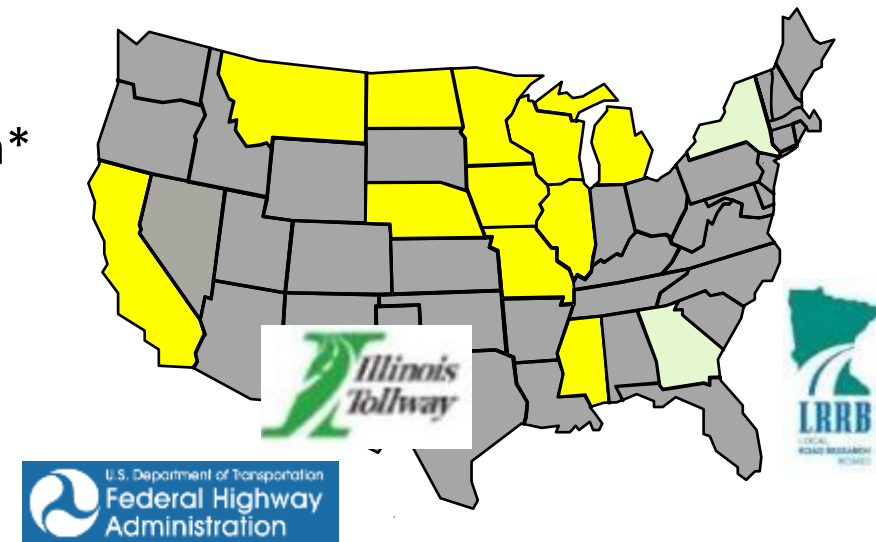
Wally Heyen\*  
Robert Rea\*

## North Dakota

Amy Beise\*  
Aaron Perez\*

## Wisconsin

Eric Lyngdal\*  
Barry Paye\*



GA and NY → ICT Only



# National Road Research Alliance (North Dakota Technical Team Membership)

## Executive Committee

Amy Beise\*  
Aaron Perez\*



## Preventative Maintenance

Amy Beise  
Adam Berglund  
Curt Dunn  
Kaylin Kautzman  
Aaron Perez  
Stephanie Weigel\*

## Rigid

Amy Beise  
Brian Bennes  
Adam Berglund  
Kaylin Kautzman  
Matt Luger  
TJ Murphy\*

## Intelligent Construction

Amy Beise\*  
David Bruins  
Curt Dunn\*  
Nathan Haaland  
Darin Lindblom  
Carey Schreiner

## Flexible

Curt Dunn, chair  
Andy Ayash  
Amy Beise  
Brian Bennes  
Adam Berglund  
Kaylin Kautzman  
Matt Linneman  
Arlen Norris  
Korby Seward  
Tyler Wollmuth\*



## Geotechnical

Amy Beise  
Brent Flaa\*  
Matt Kurle  
Colter Schwagler\*

\* = Voting Member

# 2022 MnROAD Construction Overview

## Main theme from NRRRA: Sustainability and Resilience

What new materials will help meet future sustainability guidelines?



### 45 New Test Sections

- 4 – In-Place Recycling
- 4 – Preventive Maintenance
- 6 – PCC Innovative Patching / Diamond Grinding
- 16 – PCC Reduced Cement
- 1 – PCC WIM area
- 2 – PCC Recycled Fiber
- 2 – HMA Perpetual Pavement
  - 1 of 2 with Wicking Geotextile
- 10 – Reflective Cracking Challenge

### Partners Donated Materials

- CAT – HMA Milling
- Geotextile Fabric
- VRAM – J-Band
- CIR Rejuvenator Donation

### MnDOT Furnished Materials

- HMA Plant Mix Furnished (~1/2 mixes)
  - Additive Suppliers
- PCC Plant Mix Furnished (all mixes)
  - Additive Suppliers

# 2022 MnROAD Construction Support

## NRRA Teams

- Flexible
- Rigid
- Geotechnical
- Pavement Maintenance
- Intelligent Construction

## MnDOT

- Tina Nohrenberg
- Steven Allen
- Jesse Shank
- Brian Levanduski
- Craig Nolden
- Tom Scholer
- Designers
- Letting
- Research Services
- STIP Funding

## MnDOT Research

- Tom Burnham
- Bernard Izevbekhai
- Michael Wallace
- Annika Christiansen
- Rob Golish
- Maria Masten
- Troy Huebner
- Steve Olson
- Dan Roushar
- Jason Donahoe
- Bob Strommen
- Raul Velasquez
- Ceren Aydin
- Ben Worel
- Michael Vrtis
- Jacob Calvert
- Emil Bautista
- Joseph Podolsky
- Jeff Tabery
- Eddie Johnson
- Glenn Engstrom
- Jeff Brunner

## University/Consulting

- American Engineering
- Applied Pavement Technology
- Auburn University
- Braun Intertec
- Caterpillar
- i-Engineering
- Ingios
- Iowa State University
- Michigan State University
- Michigan Tech
- Nichols Consulting
- Sutter Engineering
- Terracon
- Texas Transportation Institute
- Transtec Group
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of New Hampshire
- NDSU (fiber optic sensors)
- University Texas El Paso
- FHWA PCC Mobile Lab
- NCAT HMA Mobile Lab

## Material Suppliers

- Avangard Plastic
- Dow Plastic
- Entech Rubber
- Liberty Tire Rubber
- Ace Fibers
- Forta Fibers
- 3M (Natural Pozzolan)
- Ash Grove (ACM)
- Burgess Pigments (Natural Pozzolan)
- Carbon Cure
- Carbon Limit (Blended ASCM)
- Carbon Upcycling (Processed Fly Ash)
- Continental Cement (High Limestone)
- CP Tech Center (Optimized Mix)
- Hess Pumice (Natural Pozzolan)
- TerraCO2 (Manufactured Fly Ash)
- Ultra-High Materials
- Urban Mining (Ground Glass)
- Flint Hills
- Cargill (Rejuvenator)
- Heritage (J-Band)
- Solmax (wicking geotextile)

## Contractors

- Bolton and Menk
- CS McCrossan (Prime)
- PCI (Subcontractor)
- Martin Marietta (HMA mix)
- Aggregate Industries (Concrete)
- Cemstone (Concrete)



# 2022 MnROAD Reflective Cracking Challenge

- Study Designed to match research to Typical agency applications
  - BOB = bituminous over bituminous ~50% network



## Statewide (All Districts)

<u>Pavement</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Miles</u>
BIT	12%	1,682
BOB	50%	7,104
BOC	22%	3,136
CON	17%	2,377
CRCP	0%	2
<b>All</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,301</b>

<u>Pavement</u>	<u>PQI</u>	<u>RQI</u>	<u>SR</u>
BIT	3.6	3.5	3.8
BOB	3.3	3.2	3.4
BOC	3.4	3.3	3.6
CON	3.6	3.4	3.9
CRCP	3.8	3.6	4.0
<b>All</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>

# NRRA Reflective Cracking Challenge

## NCAT Additive Group

### 2022 MnROAD Construction

#### Partnerships

- Tied to NCAT Additive Group (NY participation)
  - Additive Donations similar
- CAT Milling – Initial Milling
- VRAM donated

#### Contractor

- Paves All HMA (Lift 3 and 2)
- Saws and 1" Milling (Lift 2)
- Places donated VRAM
- Paves HMA surfaces (Lift 1)
  - Contractor provided 2230 and 2231
  - MnDOT provided rest of the mixes

Lift 1

Lift 2

Lift 3

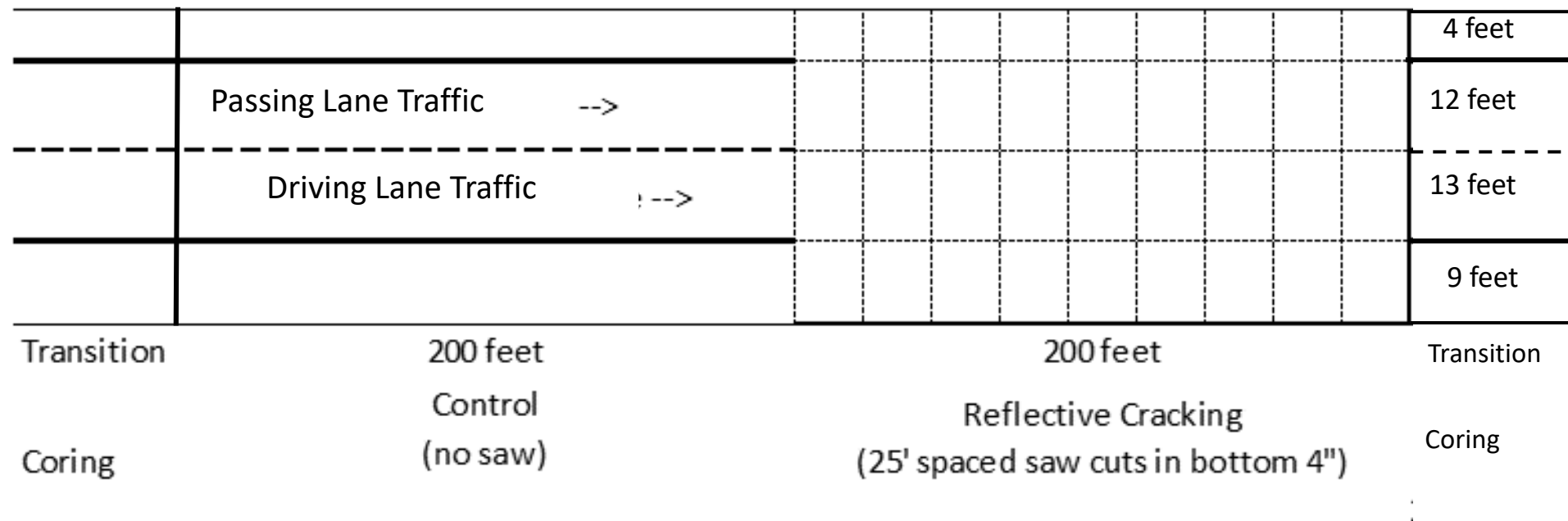
2022 HMA Reflective Cracking Challenge Additive Group Studies (NCAT Partnership)		
2239 - 2230		
2" HMA Surface Mix	* Each Test Section Consists of 200 ft of Sawn and ~200 ft of Non-Sawn Nonwear Lower Base Coarse Layers in the HMA	
4" HMA *	2230	Control Mix SPWEAB540B - PG 58S-28
	2231	Superpave 5.0 SPWEAB550F - PG 58V-34
	2232	Wet Plastic Additive Dow SPWEAB540A - PG 52-34
	2233	Fiber Additive Ace SPWEAB540C - PG 58H-34
	2234	Fiber Additive Forta Fi SPWEAB540C - PG 58H-34
	2235	Wet Rubber Additive Entech SPWEAB540A - PG 52-34
	2236	Dry Plastic Additive Avangard SPWEAB540A - PG 49-34
	2237	Dry Rubber Additive Liberty Tire SPWEAB540A - PG 49-34
	2238	Control Mix SPWEAB540A - PG 49-34
	2239	Control Mix SPWEAB540C - PG 58H-34
12" Class 6		
12" Class 3		
7" Select Gran		
Clay		
Aug 2022		
400		

# NRRA Reflective Cracking Challenge

## MnROAD Test Sections

### 10 Test Sections with different HMA surfaces

- Tied to NCAT additive group 2021 construction (NY Contribution)
- Missouri funded 400K to tie Missouri Test Sections into each study
- ~450' of paving per surface mix (50' transitions)
- 200' of sawing to recreate/induce reflective cracking
- Milled before final 2" was placed





# NCAT Additive Group -Surface HMA Mix Details

- **10 Sections with differing surface HMA**

- Controls

1. PG 58H -34 (modified)
2. PG 58S -28 (unmodified)
3. PG ~49 -34 (unmodified)

- Additive Sections

4. Aramid Fiber 1 w/ PG 58H -34 (modified)
  5. Aramid Fiber 2 w/ PG 58H -34 (modified)
  6. Dry Plastic Additive w/ PG ~49 -34
  7. Dry Rubber Additive w/ PG ~49 -34
  8. Wet Plastic Additive
  9. Wet Rubber Additive
- } w/ PG 52-34 from Mathy

- Super Pave 5.0

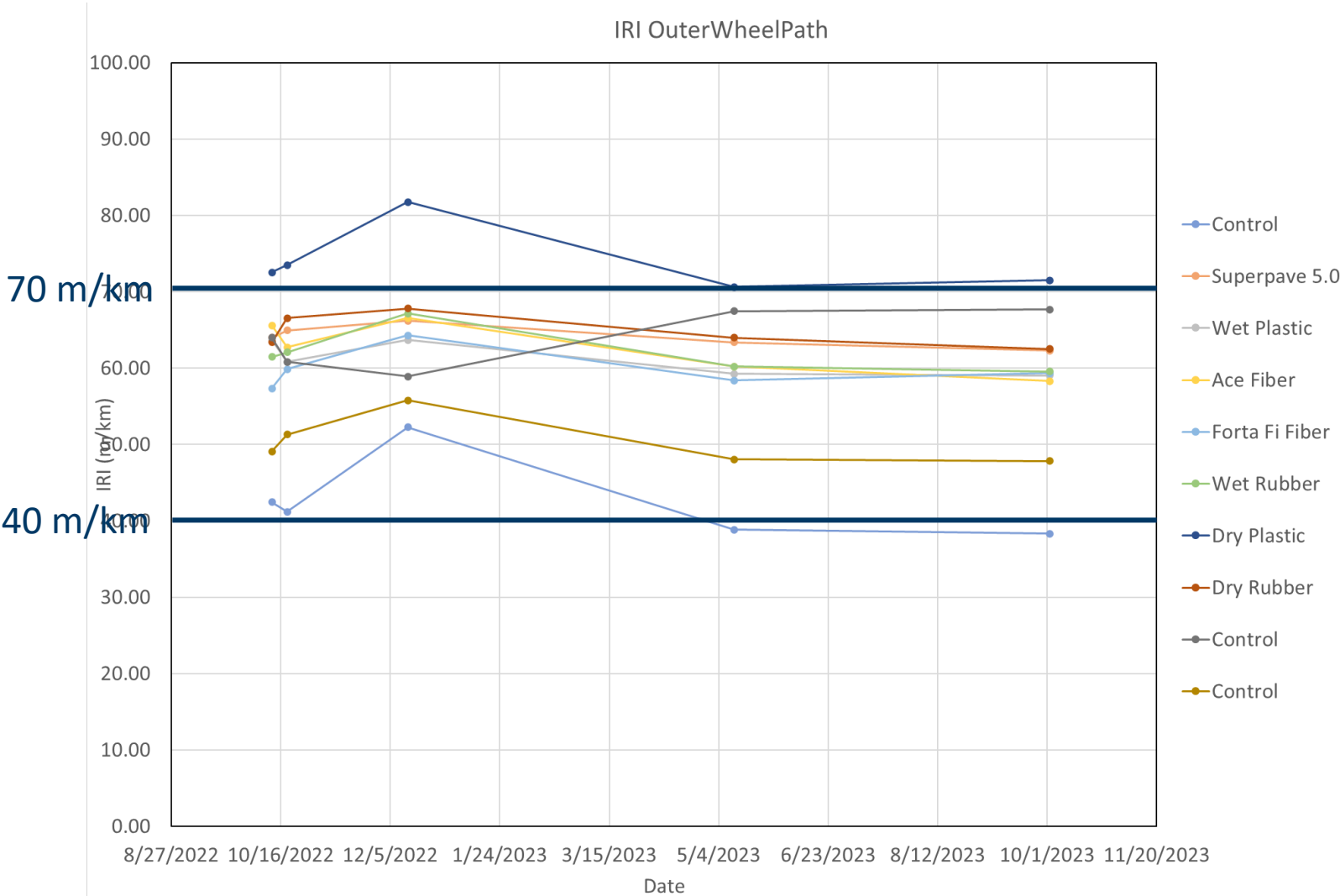
10. PG 58V -34 (modified) (NRRA)

- **All mixes contain**

- MnDOT Traffic Level 5 (10<30 mESALS)
- Superpave Gyratory BMD
- ¾" Max Agg (SP 12.5mm)
- 20% RAP

# Reflective Cracking Challenge Performance

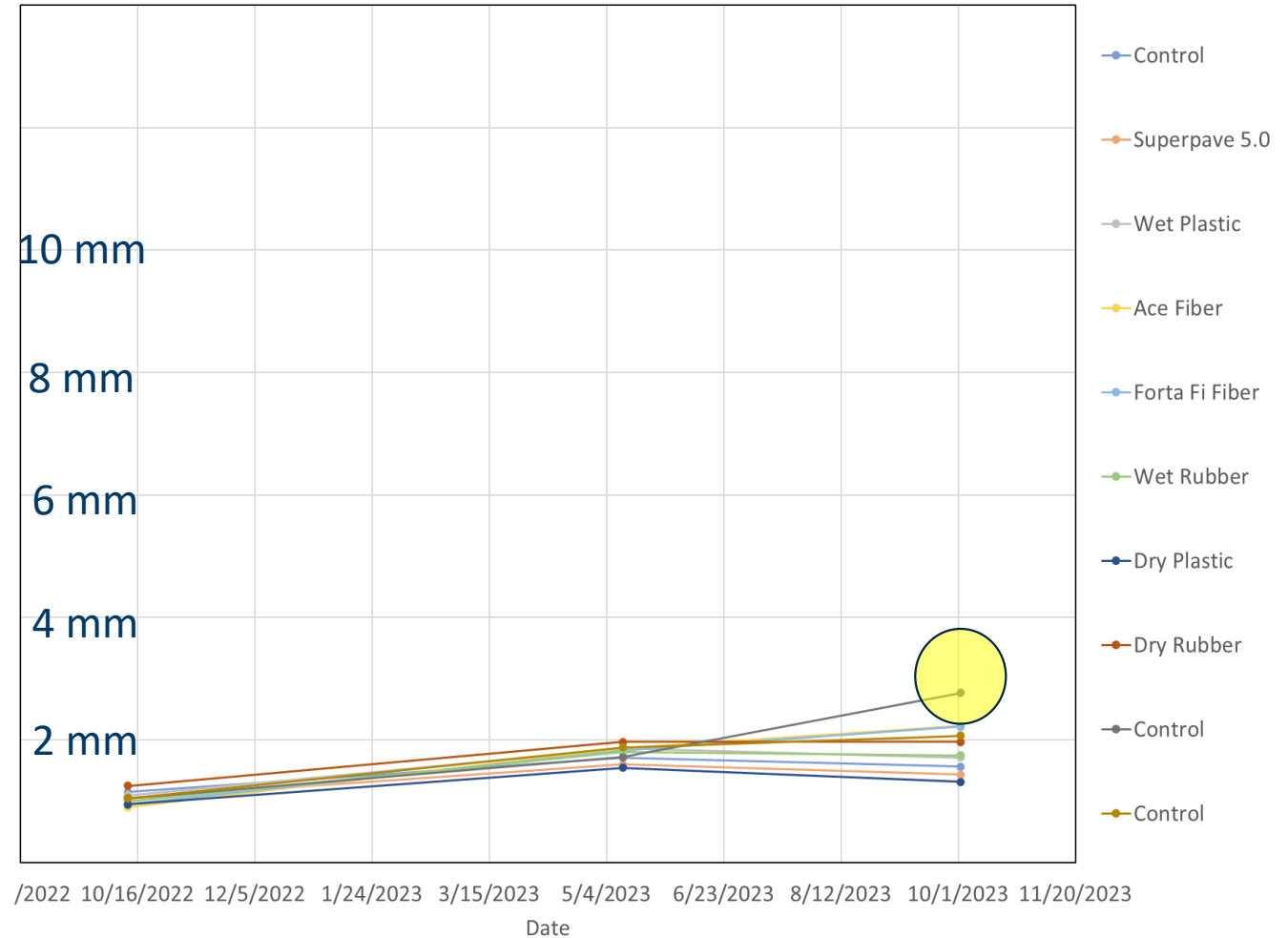
Good  
initial ride  
and  
no change  
over 1<sup>st</sup>  
year



# Reflective Cracking Challenge Performance



**No rutting over 1<sup>st</sup> year but  
maybe developing in  
PG49-34 Control Section**





# NRRA - 2022 MnROAD Reduced Cement Studies

## Partnerships

- Developed by Larry Sutter and Tom VanDam (NRRA Contract)
- Additives Donated by multiple partners

## Contractor

- Removes Existing Concrete and Base / Common Excavation (Clay)
- Places Aggregate Bases / Paves PCC Mix (Paver)

## MnDOT

- Furnished PCC Mix / Instrumentation

## 3 NRRA Contracts

- Use of alternative pozzolanic materials – Nichols/Applied Pavement Technology
- Use of carbon dioxide – Iowa State
- Use of alternative cementitious materials – Applied Pavement Technology/Nichols

Passing Shoulder	2209 to 2224	Driving Shoulder
7.5" PCC Mix	7.5" PCC Mix	4" HMA
4" Agg. Base Special	4" Agg. Base Special	7.5" Agg. Base Special
5.5" Agg. Base Special - RAB	5.5" Agg. Base Special - RAB	5.5" Agg. Base Special - RAB
Clay	Clay	Clay
4 ft	12 ft + 13 ft	26 9 ft

# NRRA – 2022 MnROAD Reduced Cement Products

## 2022 Concrete Alternatives (East)

### 2224 - 2217

7.5" PCC Astro Turf	~15' Panels - 13' Driving and 12' Passing - 1.25" Dowels 4' PCC Passing Shoulder and 9' HMA Driving Shoulder <i>Traditional Diamond Grinding Done Sept 8-10, 2022 As Noted</i>	
	<b>2217</b>	<b>Carbon Cure Control (Cemstone) - Grind</b>
	(254 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10) + 30% FlyAsh
	<b>2218</b>	<b>Control Mix (Agg Industries)</b>
4" Class-5Q	(302 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10) + 30% FlyAsh
	<b>2219</b>	<b>Optimized Mix - CPTech (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
5.5" Class-5	(268 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10) + 30% FlyAsh
	<b>2220</b>	<b>Burgess Pigments - Natural Pozzolan (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
	(195 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+12% metakaolin+18% FlyAsh (12% Replacement)
	<b>2221</b>	<b>3M - Natural Pozzolan (Agg Industries)</b>
Clay	(234 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L (10)+15% Natural Pozzolan+15% Prairie State Fly Ash (NOT Coal Creek) (30% Replacement)
	<b>2222</b>	<b>Hess Pumice - Natural Pozzolan (Agg Industries)</b>
	(230 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+30% natural pozzolan (30% Replacement)
	<b>2223</b>	<b>Continental Cement - High Limestone (Agg Industries)</b>
Oct 2022	(257 ft)	Blended PLC with 20% limestone+30% FlyAsh (70% Replacement)
	<b>2224</b>	<b>Carbon Limit - Blended ASCM (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
Varies	(169 ft)	Natural Pozzolan Mix+catalyst at 30% replacement level (30% Replacement)

## 2022 Concrete Alternatives (West)

### 2216 - 2209

7.5" PCC Astro Turf	~15' Panels - 13' Driving and 12' Passing - 1.25" Dowels 4' PCC Passing Shoulder and 9' HMA Driving Shoulder <i>Traditional Diamond Grinding Done Sept 8-10, 2022 As Noted</i>	
	<b>2209</b>	<b>ACM - Ultra High Materials (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
	Limited	Hydraulic non-portland cement (100% Replacement) - 25' Replaced 9/15/22
	<b>2210</b>	<b>Carbon Cure RGC1 (Cemstone) - Grind</b>
4" Class-5Q	(270 ft)	Optimized Mix+ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+CarbonCure added+30% ash (0% Replacement)
	<b>2211</b>	<b>Carbon Cure RGC2 (Cemstone) - Grind</b>
5.5" Class-5	(263 ft)	Control Mix+CarbonCure added @same dosage used in optimized mixture, scaled to cement of control (0% Replacement)
	<b>2212</b>	<b>Carbon Cure RGC3 (Cemstone) - Grind</b>
	(272 ft)	CarbonCure optimized mixture+ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+NO CarbonCure added+30% ash (0% Replacement)
	<b>2213</b>	<b>Carbon Upcycling - Porcessed FlyAsh (Agg Industries)</b>
Clay	(230 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10) reduced cementitious+30% ASCM (30% Replacement)
	<b>2214</b>	<b>Ash Grove - ACM (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
	(225 ft)	LC3 (100% Replacement) - 8' replaced 9/15/2022
	<b>2215</b>	<b>Urban Mining - Ground Glass (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
Oct 2022	(124 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+30% ground glass pozzolan (30% Replacement)
	<b>2216</b>	<b>TerraCO2 - Manufactured FlyAsh (Agg Industries) - Grind</b>
Varies	(243 ft)	ASTMC595 Type1L(10)+30% ASCM (35% Replacement)

# NRRA Spray-Applied Rejuvenator Study

- **12 different products applied in 2021**
- **Applied at 3 locations**
  - MnROAD 58-28 (50')
  - MnROAD 58-34 (50')
  - St. Michael (500')
- **Measuring long-term:**
  - Friction, paint reflectivity, permeability, asphalt binder
- **Over 1,500 cores taken in first 2 years of study**





# 2019 NRRA Mix Rejuvenator Study



- 2019 mill/inlay job in Northern Minnesota (Emily, MN)
- 7 Rejuvenating Products
- 40% RAP content – targeted xx-34 (original 58-28)
- Measuring long-term:
  - Field performance, asphalt binder + mix properties,
- NRRA Funded for additional 4 years!





# NRRA HMA Perpetual Pavement

- **Test Sections Built**

- 2022 – Minnesota 8.5” HMA perpetual pavement
- 2023 – Wisconsin Deep Strength HMA 2 sections (12.5” HMA) Osseo, WI on I-94
- All sections have instrumentation for temperature, moisture, strain and pressure

- **Combined Research – RFP coming out 2024**



# DPS National Pooled Fund Program



DPS Contacts - Materials & Road  
Research - MnDOT  
[www.dot.state.mn.us](http://www.dot.state.mn.us)

## Continuous Asphalt Mixture Compaction Assessment Using Density Profiling System (DPS) [TPF-5(443)]

- **Objective:** Use the DPS method to improve asphalt pavement density
  - Increased coverage and comprehensiveness of assessment
  - Timely information to improve construction process
  - Reduce coring
- **Lead Agency:** MnDOT
  - Contact: Kyle Hoegh, [kyle.hoegh@state.mn.us](mailto:kyle.hoegh@state.mn.us) (MnDOT)
- **Committed agencies:** MN, FHWA, GA, ID, MD, ME, MO, MS, ND, NY, OH, PADOT, UT, WA, WI
- **100% SP&R Approval:** Approved
- **Commitment level:** \$25K/year



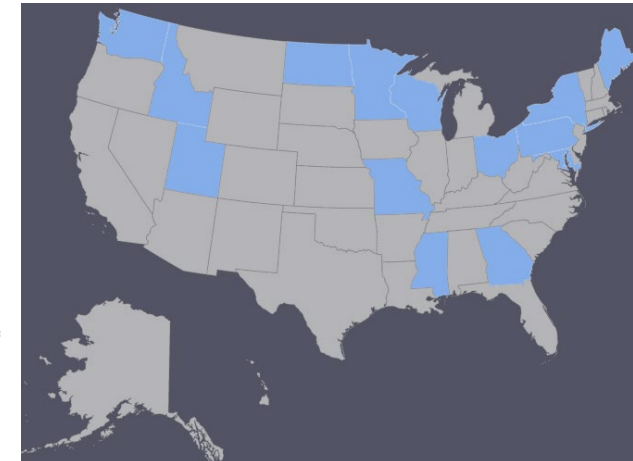
TPF - Study Detail  
[www.pooledfund.org](http://www.pooledfund.org)

Official TPF



Density Profiling System - Office of  
Materials and Research  
[www.dot.state.mn.us](http://www.dot.state.mn.us)

MnDOT TPF





# DPS National Pooled Fund Program



DPS Contacts - Materials & Road  
Research - MnDOT  
[www.dot.state.mn.us](http://www.dot.state.mn.us)

## Informational Materials



### DPS DIGEST

SEPTEMBER 2022

Contractors, ask yourselves one question: Do you feel lucky?

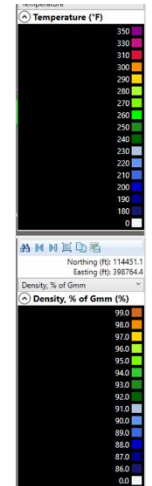
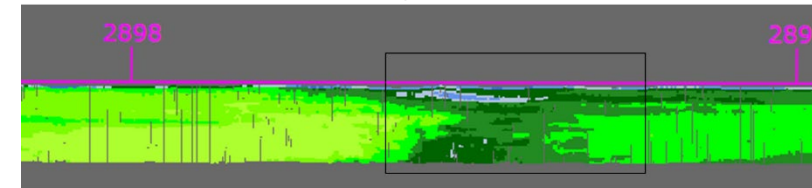
CONTRACTORS ROUTINELY cut cores from the roadway after construction to verify the pavement meets minimum density requirements. These singular random coring locations are used as the basis for acceptance of a larger portion of the pavement. The density results affect contractors and owners alike; for owners such as transportation agencies, a good core result can foretell the road's long-term durability, while contractors often have conditional financial incentives



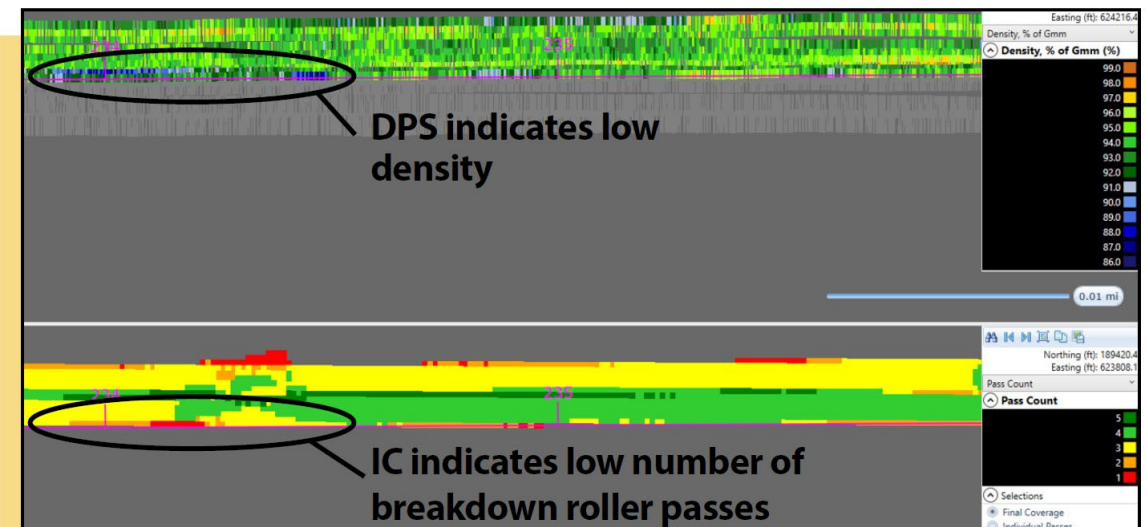
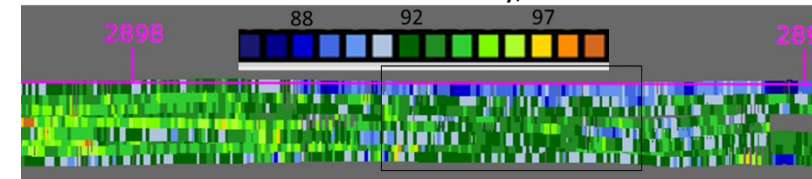
By rolling a DPS unit over the newly paved roadway, crews measured the pavement's density in real time.

## Process Improvement: Leveraging ICT technologies

PMTP Measured Temperature at Placement, °F



DPS Measured Density, %Gmm



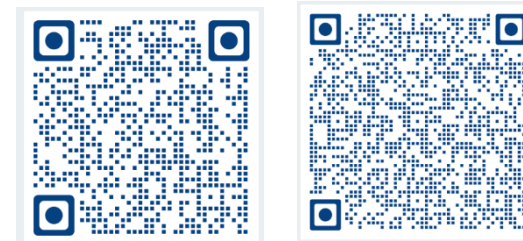
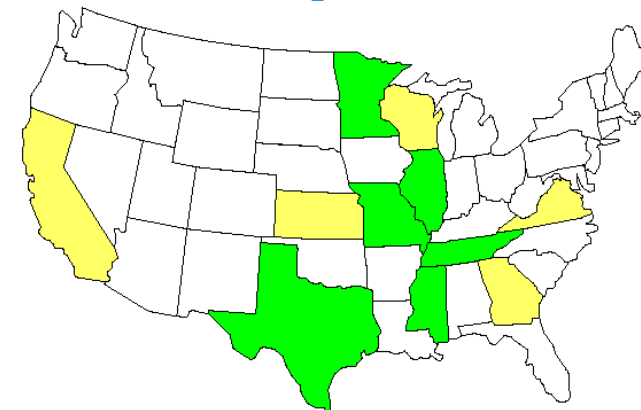
## Training/Peer Exchange Opportunities



# Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing

## TPF-5(504): Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing (4 years)

- **Objective:** Develop testing and analysis procedures for automatic detection and rating of stripped section for project and network level pavement evaluations
- **Lead Agency:** MnDOT
  - Contact: Eyoab Zegeye, [eyoab.zegeye@state.mn.us](mailto:eyoab.zegeye@state.mn.us) (MNDOT)
- **Committed agencies:** MN, IL, MO, TN, MS, TX, GA & FHWA
- **Pending:** CA, KS, WI, VA and IN
- **100% SP&R Approval:** Approved
- **Commitment level:** \$25K/year

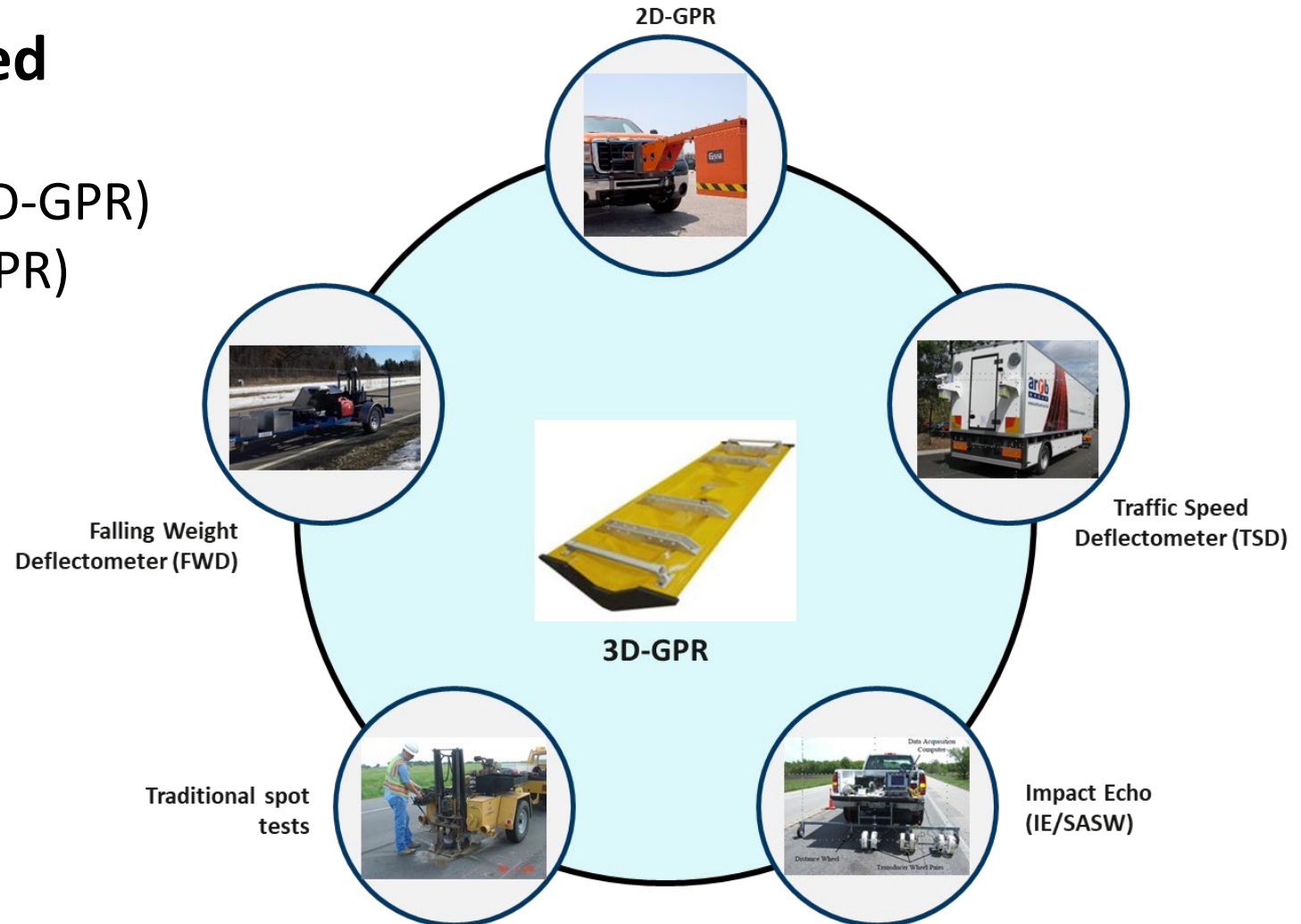


SCAN US

# Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing

- **Testing Technologies Considered**

- MnDOT Road Doctor
- 3D Ground Penetrating Radar (3D-GPR)
- 2D Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)
- Falling Weight Deflectometer
- Traffic Speed Deflectometer
- Impact Echo IE/SASW
- Coring/Boring





# MnROAD / NCAT Partnership

## Formalized Partnership working on National Needs:

- Full scale accelerated test facilities
- North / South Climatic Zones / Sections
- CAPRI (NCAT Lead National HMA Consortium)

## Cracking Group Experiments

- 6 year of partnership with 10 Government Agencies
- HMA cracking test for LTC and fatigue cracking

## Additive Group Experiment

- NCAT focus on fatigue cracking
- MnROAD focus on Reflective Cracking
- Continued National Research Coordination

## Preservation Group Experiments

- Life extending benefits of pavement preservation techniques
- 8 year of partnership with over 24+ agencies
- Developing next phase – starting in January 2024





# National Pavement Preservation Study

## 2 Climates & 2 Traffic Levels

### Minnesota



Construction  
2016



2016



CSAH-8

Climate

High  
Traffic  
Low

### Alabama



Construction  
2015



2012

# NCAT/MnROAD Preservation Group (PG) Effort (Northern In-Place Recycling – 70<sup>th</sup> Street)

## 2019 Construction (Thinlays over)

- Control (no other work)
- SFDR (foam-emulsion)
- CIR (foam-emulsion)
- CCPR (foam-emulsion)
- 2 Regular Mill/Fills

## 2 Year Observations

- Ride (IRI)
  - 2019 IRI over 300 in/mi
  - 2021 IRI 60-100 in/mi
- Reflective Cracking
  - Difference in controls and recycled sections cracking
- Rutting – not an issue



1 Mile  
16 Test Sections

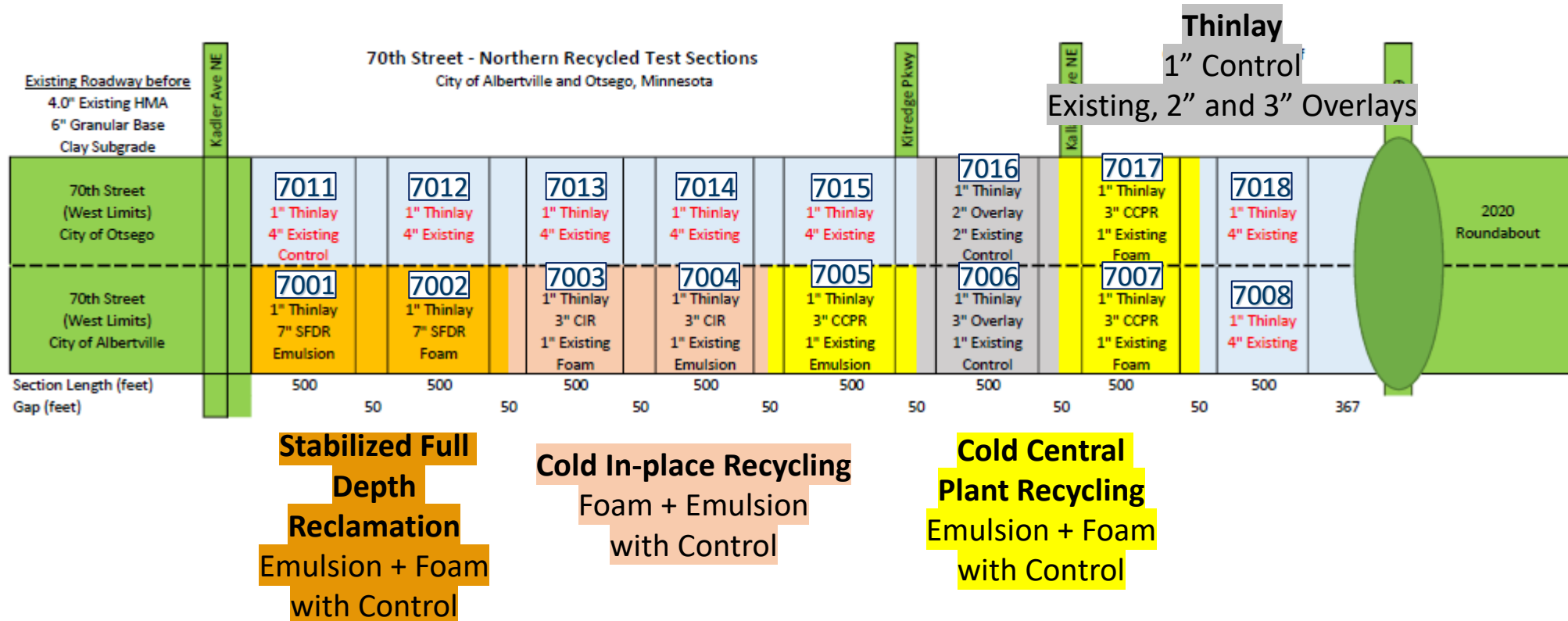
		Ka					Kit		Kallant		C	
70th Street (West Limits)		(7001W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing Control	(7002W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing	(7003W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing	(7004W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing	(7005W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing	(7006W) 1" Thinlay 2" Overlay 2" Existing Control		(7007W) 1" Thinlay 3" CCPR 1" Existing Foam	(7008W) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing		2020 Roundabout
70th Street (West Limits)		(7001E) 1" Thinlay 7" SFDR Emulsion	(7002E) 1" Thinlay 7" SFDR Foam	(7003E) 1" Thinlay 3" CIR 1" Existing Foam	(7004E) 1" Thinlay 3" CIR 1" Existing Emulsion	(7005E) 1" Thinlay 3" CCPR 1" Existing Emulsion	(7006E) 1" Thinlay 3" Overlay 1" Existing Control		(7007E) 1" Thinlay 3" CCPR 1" Existing Foam	(7008E) 1" Thinlay 4" Existing		
		548 feet	550 feet	550 feet	550 feet	550 feet	550 feet		550 feet	867 feet		

# Pre-existing cracking – Google Earth



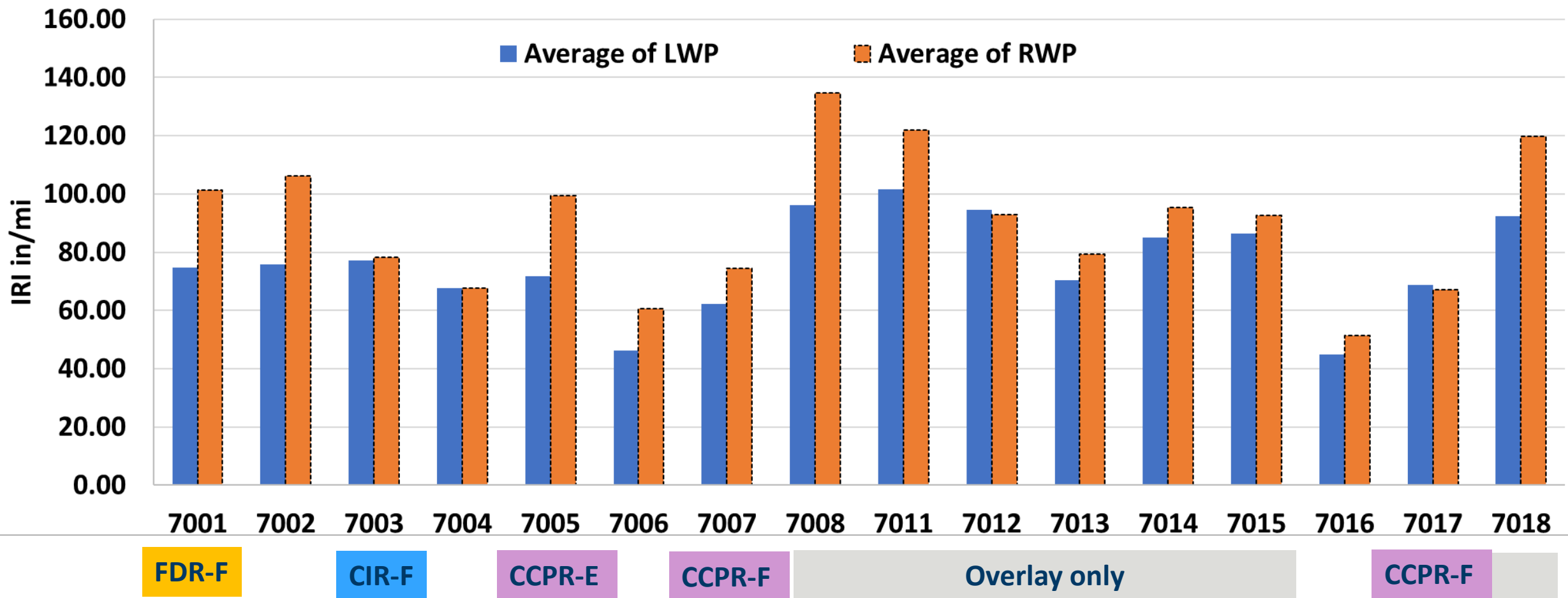
# Pavement Preservation Northern Recycling

## 70<sup>th</sup> Street As Built (1/10 mile)

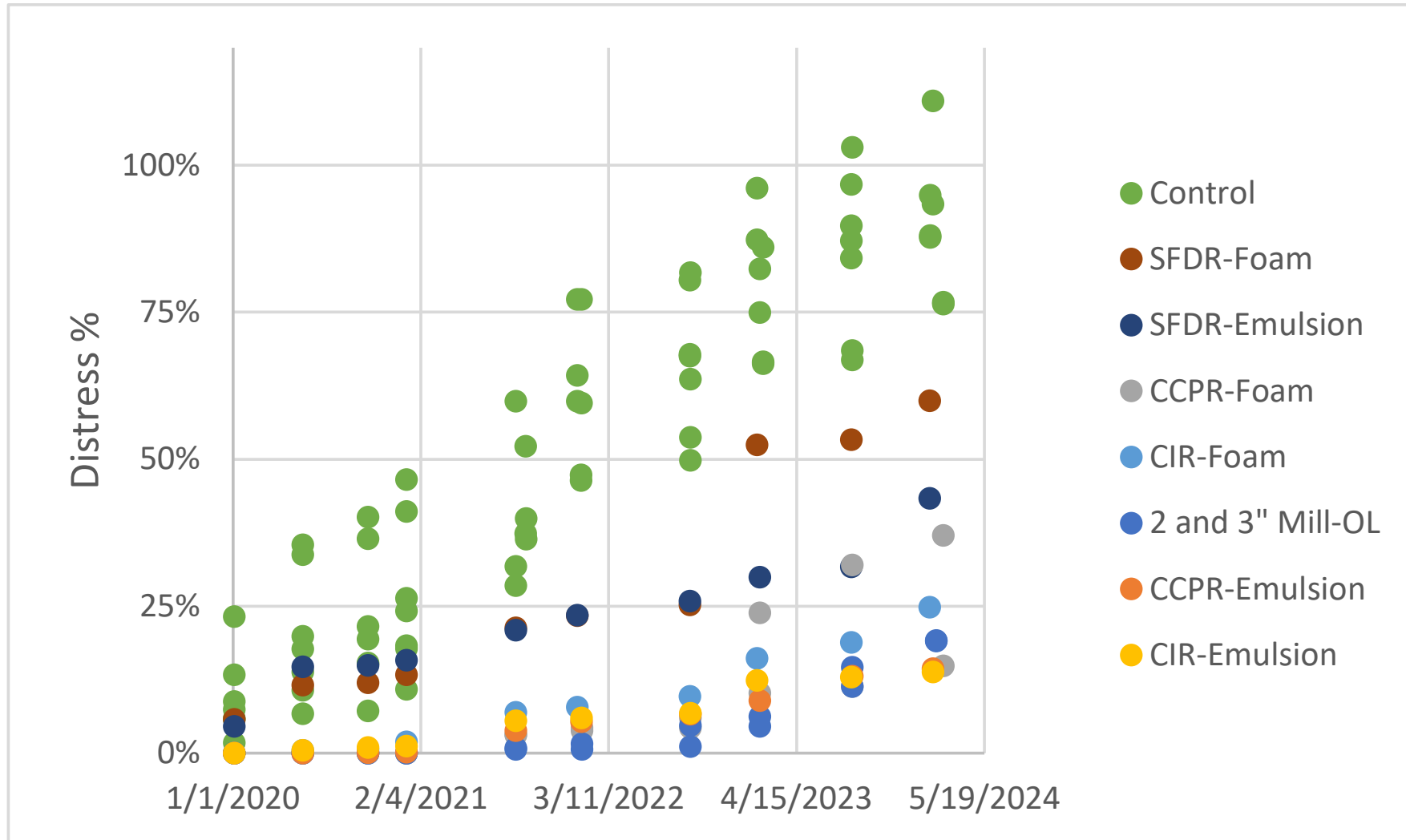




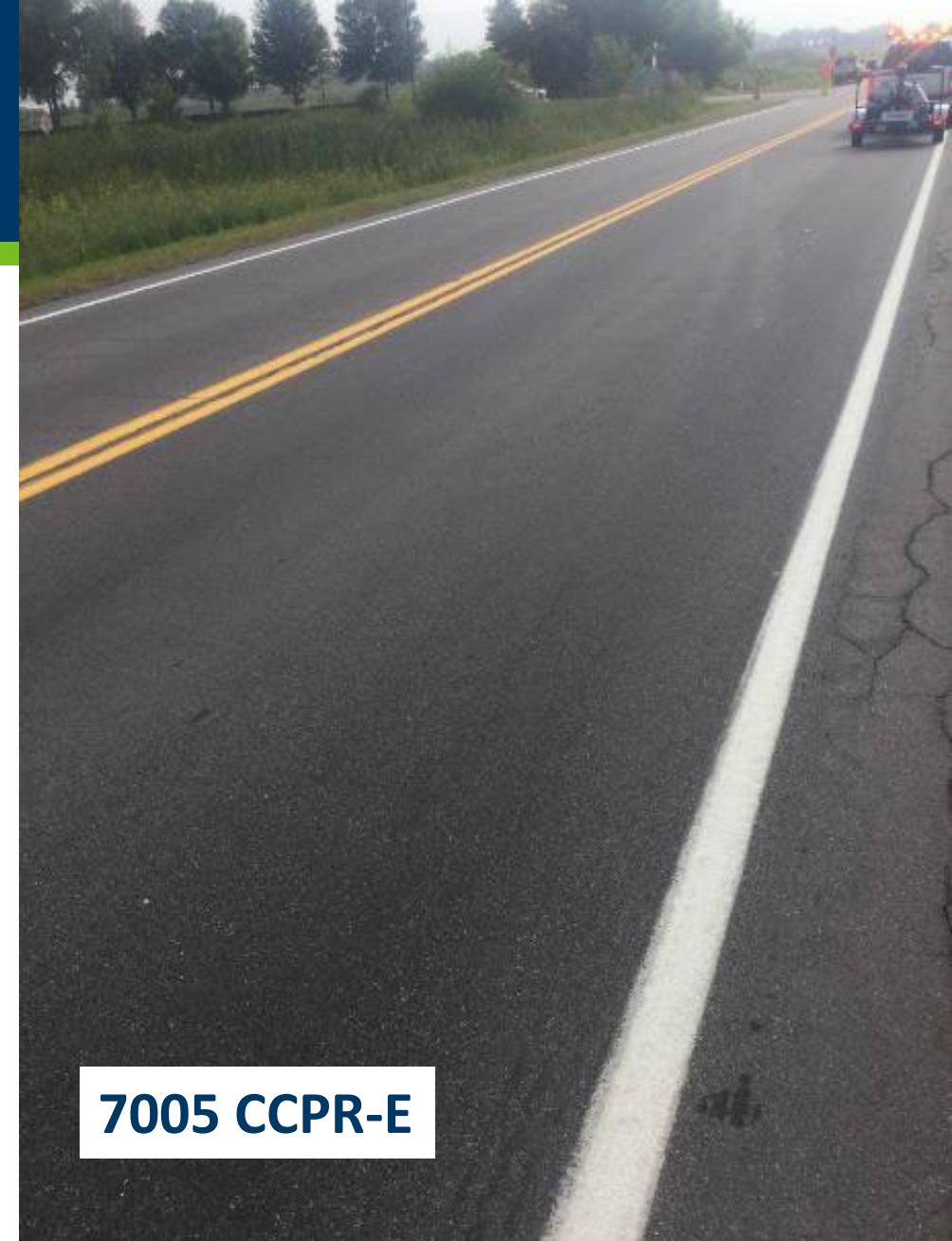
# Performance – Ride (September 2023)



# Performance – Total Returning Cracking (September 2023)



# Performance – Cracking (August 2023)





# Performance – Cracking (August 2023)



# 2007 MnROAD FDR Findings (stepping back to MnROAD Tie)

- **2007 Road Science Partnership**

- 3 Sections (mainline Cells 2,3,4)

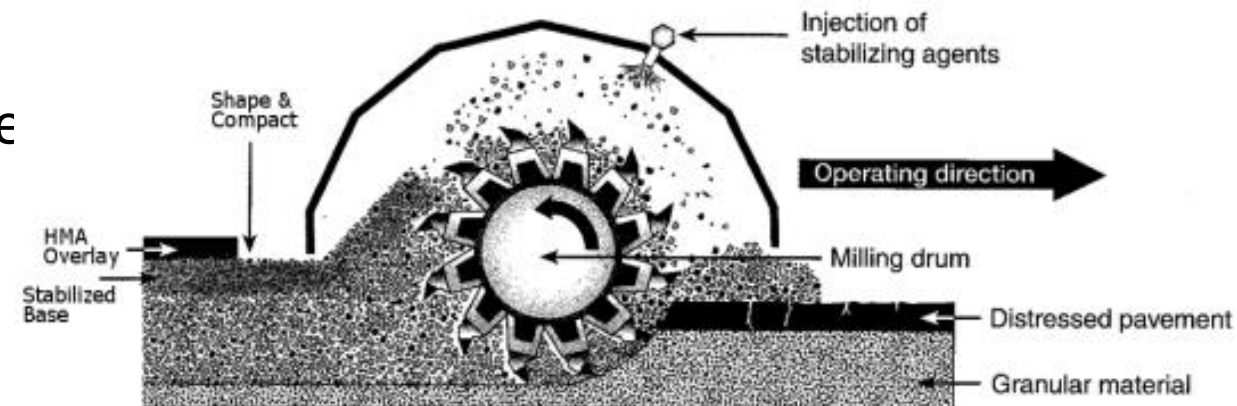
- **Observations**

- 2.75" Interstate surface on engineered FDR
- Engineered emulsion → balance stiffness/flexibility

- **Benefits**

- Design for distressed pavements/Full depth repairs
- **Designed to last 5 years lasted 13+**
- Cells 2,3 – Excellent Performance
- Cell 4 – built on clay no base – seasonal Effect (poorest performance – cracking and fatigue)

Lots of Promise - Sustainable practice



# 2022 NRRA Study / MnROAD Construction

- **Built off the 2007 Experiment**
  - SFDR on existing SFDR
  - Redo Surfaces on SFDR (Micro vs TBWC)
- **NRRA Funded Project**
  - Reclamation and Recycling Techniques to Achieve Perpetual Pavement Characteristics
  - 4 test sections



Perpetual Recycling with Thinlays/Microsurfacing							
2208	2207	2206	2205 Micro	2204 Micro	2203	2202	2201
1" UTWBC	1" UTWBC	1" TBWC	1" TBWC 2008	1" 64-34 2008	1" UTWBC	1" UTWBC	1" UTWBC
2" 64-34	2" HMA	2" 64-34	2" 64-34	2" 64-34	2" 64-34	2" HMA	2" HMA
4" CIR without Rejuvenator	4" CIR with Rejuvenator	6" FDR + EE	6" FDR + EE	6" FDR + EE	6" FDR + EE	3" CIR without Rejuvenator	3" CIR with Rejuvenator
4" FDR + EE	4" FDR + EE	2" FDR	2" FDR	6" FDR	6" FDR	1" HMA 2017	1" HMA 2017
9" FDR + Fly Ash	9" FDR + Fly Ash	2" Class 5	2" Class 5	6" FDR	6" FDR	33" Class 4	33" Class 4
Clay	Clay	33" Class 3	33" Class 3	4" Class 4	4" Class 4	Clay	Clay
Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2022
256	265	246	245	246	245	177	249

Cell 4

Cell 3

Cell 2

Cell 1

SFDR of 2007 SFDR

TBWC or Micro over 2007 SFDR

First SFDR



# NRRA Project - Reclamation and Recycling Techniques to Achieve Perpetual Pavement Characteristics

## Research Goals (started in Fall 2023)

- Create a framework for a standardized methods using MnROAD data:
  - Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA)
- Evaluate recycle pavement life-cycle costs, assess end-user impacts, improve energy efficiency, enhance air quality, and promote resource conservation through the optimization of material selection and design.

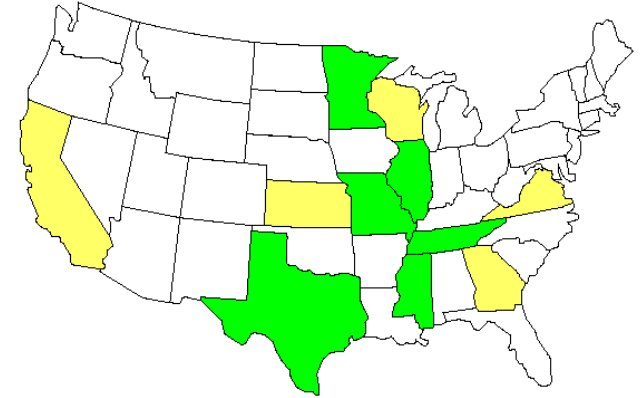
## LCA and LCCA recycled pavement structures

- MnROAD Mainline 2008 – (1) Full Depth Reclamation (FDR), (2) Stabilized Full Depth Reclamation (SFDR)
  - (a) Engineered Emulsion (EE) Stabilized and (b) Fly Ash Stabilized
- 70<sup>th</sup> Street (2019) – (1) Stabilized Full Depth Reclamation (SFDR), (2) Cold In Place Recycling (CIR), (3) Cold Central Plant Recycling (CCPR)
  - (a) Foam Stabilized and (b) Engineered Emulsion Stabilized
- MnROAD Mainline 2022 – (1) Cold In Place Recycling (CIR) of original pavement and SFDR pavement (2008)
  - (a) with Rejuvenator and (b) without Rejuvenator

**Lead:** Emil Bautista (MnDOT) and Emmanuel Adeyanju (UNC – Charlotte NSF graduate intern)

# 2024 MnROAD Construction

- **RoadSoup (100% Cold Recycle Mix - Spring)**
  - 1 Section – 2” mill/Fill
- **HMA Stripping Study (Spring)**
  - 6 Sections – HMA/HMA
  - 6 Sections – HMA/PCC
  - MnROAD Services Road
  - Study → TPF-5(504): Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing (4 years)
- **Cement Alternatives (July)**
  - 8 Mainline Test Sections – 250 ft each
  - Possible 4 Low Volume Road Test Sections – 250 ft each
  - NRRRA Study → Use of Innovative Sustainable and Durable Materials in Concrete Pavements
  - Ties to the 16 test sections and research started in 2022



# 2024 NRRA Conference

## **April 30 - May 1, 2024**

- Shoreview Community Center (Minneapolis/St Paul)
- NRRA implementation Focus
  - April 30, 2024
    - General Session
    - Team Lead Sessions on implementation of completed NRRA projects
  - May 1, 2024
    - Morning - Team Lead Updates and project highlight
    - Afternoon – MnROAD Open house / demos / meetings / open to ideas

NRRA Technical Teams are developing the agenda for the 1 ½ day conference and different options for the 2<sup>nd</sup> day at MnROAD.



# Partnership Links / Ways to get Involved

## Pavement Preservation – Phase III



- MnDOT Lead State
- Solicitation 1581 - <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Solicitation/1581>

## National Road Research Alliance NRRA

- MnDOT Lead State
- TPF-5(466) - <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Study/693>



## Additive Group Study

- NCAT lead pooled fund / NRRA & MnROAD Ties
- TPF-5(469)- <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Study/696>



## DPS National Pooled Fund Program

- MnDOT lead State (15 agencies)
- TPF-5(443)- <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Study/667>



## Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-destructive Testing

- MnDOT lead State (8 agencies)
- TPF-5(504)- <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Study/733>



# 2024 NRRA Expected RFP

## **Flexible - Perpetual Pavements in Wet Freeze Climate**

- Supported with MnROAD and Wisconsin test sections

## **Flexible - Recycled Binder Availability**

- Efforts to understand how recycled binders effect new HMA

## **Flexible – Balanced Mix Design**

- NRRA supported second phase of research

## **Rigid - Concrete Sustainability / Cement Alternatives**

- Supported with 2024 MnROAD test sections

# Future Topics? Reasons to Partner

1. Green Pavements
2. Intelligent Systems
3. Innovative Materials

1. Sustainability/ EPD
2. Database/AI
3. Collaborations/ Partnerships

1. What do you think?
2. What is the future?



Thank You - Ben



# Questions / Comments

**Working together you can be a part of something bigger than yourself**



Buzz

Ben Worel

[ben.worel@state.mn.us](mailto:ben.worel@state.mn.us)