

Airport Asphalt Pavement Technology Program



Objectives

- To re-establish the Airport Asphalt Pavement Technology Program (AAPTP)
- 2. To identify airport pavement issues and problems that could be eligible for funding
- 3. To coordinate FAA and industry efforts to implement technologies and to solve problems identified through the program as important to FAA and industry
- To pursue the technology transfer of new solutions, practices, and recommendations as needed



Management

- 1. Program Coordination Group (Identifies Projects to Complete)
 - Airport Consultants Council
 - NAPA Producer Member
 - Aircraft Manufacturer
 - Federal Aviation Administration
 - Department of Defense
 - State Asphalt Pavement Association
 - Aggregate Industry Representative
 - Openings (ASCE APC Member, Airport Council International, American Association of Airport Executives)

Management

- 1. Project Technical Panel (Anyone can serve)
 - Develop request for proposals/qualifications for projects
 - Select project team
 - Monitor project progress



Asphalt Mixture Paving Handbook - Revision

- Objective:
 - Update 2000 Transportation Research Board Publication
 - Will also include building an interactive website for field access
- Principal Investigator: Mark Buncher (Asphalt Institute)
- Project Completion: July 1, 2024
- Funding: \$200,000 + \$100,000 for website
 - RFP for website development in process



Guidance on Selection of Asphalt Binder Grade

- Objective:
 - Aid engineers on selecting and specifying proper asphalt binder grade for airfields
 - Develop a tool to aid in proper binder grade selection
- Principal Investigator: Raquel Moraes (Auburn University)
- Project Completion: March 31, 2024
- Funding: \$200,000

Tool begins beta testing soon.



Balanced Mix Design: Cracking Tests

- Objective:
 - Evaluate current cracking tests for use in mixture design to resist cracking in airfields
- Principal Investigator: Imad Al-Qadi (University of Illinois at UC)
- Project Completion: August 14, 2025
- Funding: \$1,000,000



Balanced Mix Design: Rutting Tests

- Objective:
 - Harmonize rutting requirements in the current FAA specifications
- Principal Investigator: Elie Hajj (University of Nevada at Reno)
- Project Completion: June 30, 2024
- Funding: \$500,000



Improving Performance of Longitudinal Joints in Airfield Asphalt Pavements

- Objective:
 - Synthesize best practices for maintaining longitudinal joints
 - Evaluate new technologies which could be used to improve joint performance
- Principal Investigator: Randy West (Auburn University)
- Project Completion: December 31, 2023
- Funding: \$200,000 + \$100,000 (potential Phase 2)
 - Phase 2 was cancelled because of the lack of field data. PCG is discussing next steps for investigation

Mitigation of Plastic Flow and Delamination at High-Speed Exits

- Objective:
 - Understand mechanism causing failures at high-speed exits
 - Develop solutions to prevent failures from occurring
- Principal Investigator: Hao Wang (Rutgers University)
- Project Completion: August 14, 2024
- Funding: \$500,000



Feasibility of Cold Central Plant Recycling Asphalt Mixtures for Airports

- Objective:
 - Assess feasibility and potential benefits of using CCPR in airfields
- Principal Investigator: Dave Jones (University of California Pavement Research Center)
- Project Completion: December 31, 2023
- Funding: \$500,000+ \$100,000 (Potential Phase 2)
 - Phase 2 would be to develop standard for new technologies



Validation of Gyrations for Superpave Gyratory Compactor for Mix Design of Airport Asphalt Mixtures

- Objective:
 - Synthesize research comparing Marshall and Superpave mix design methodologies
- Principal Investigator: Randy West (Auburn University)
- Project Completion: January 17, 2023 (Phase 1 completion)
- Funding: \$75,000 + \$225,000 (Phase 2 Approved)
 - Phase 2 is laboratory analysis



P-401 Mixtures: Aggregate Gradation Bands

- Objective:
 - Assess impact of adjusting aggregate gradation bands on mixture performance
- Principal Investigator: Nam Tran, Auburn University
- Project Completion: March 31, 2025
- Funding: \$1,000,000



Airfield Asphalt Pavement Resilience

- Objective:
 - Synthesis and state of the practice on resilience practices for airport asphalt pavements
 - Develop research needs
- Principal Investigator: Ben Bowers, Auburn University
- Project Completion: October 1, 2025
- Funding: \$1,250,000



Use of RAP in P-401 Mixtures

- Objective:
 - Assess the impact of using RAP in airfield asphalt mixtures
 - Understand potential impact for carbon reduction
- Principal Investigator: Adam Hand University of Nevada at Reno
- Project Completion: Phase 1 April 2025
- Funding: \$400,000 Phase 1 (Phase 2 with panel approval is \$850,000)



Asphalt Airfield Video Series

- Objective:
 - Develop a series of videos to pair with paving handbook for technology transfer
- Principal Investigator: Qualifications due October 24
 - Setting up finalist video interviews
- Project Completion: TBD
- Funding: TBN



Current State of the Budget

- First Cooperative Agreement
 - Total Budget: \$9,500,000
 - Total Funds Allocated to Projects: \$7,210,000
 - Note: \$1.75 million QC Database Project put on hold
 - NAPA now must pay construction costs for CCPR and RAP Project (Holding \$1.5 million)
- Second Cooperative Agreement
 - Total Budget: \$3,000,000
 - Video Project to be in this budget



Panels Being Assembled

- Carbon Reduction Roadmap \$200,000
- Harnessing Advanced Technologies \$200,000
- PFAS in Airfield Pavements \$500,000



What Else Should Be Considered?

