

ACPA FORMULATES PAPER ON ASSET MANAGEMENT

The American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) has formulated a “white paper” on asset management for streets and local roads. It was developed by Lon Hawbaker and Jim Mack of ACPA for presentation at the American Public Works Association’s International Public Works Congress & Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky on September 10, 2000. The paper and a companion PowerPoint presentation explain asset management principles, life-cycle methodologies, pavement management techniques, and how concrete pavements offer a “mix of fixes” for long-term, system-wide decisions.

Asset management is a systematic process of maintaining, upgrading, and operating physical assets, such as roadways and bridges, in a cost-effective way. It combines engineering, business management, economics, and the latest computer-aided technology. The approach in asset management is to develop long-term network goals, emphasize preservation, proactively manage deterioration, develop a comprehensive maintenance plan, and commit to allocating the necessary resources over time. It is useful because of the recent introduction of Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 issued June 10, 1999, which requires state, city, and county governments to account for the current value of their infrastructure and justify their spending on it.

This paper will be helpful in explaining the concepts behind asset management, why asset management will be helpful to city and county officials in charge of infrastructure, and how concrete pavements are a better choice for infrastructure improvements and rehabilitation. Excellent drawings, charts, and tables accompany this 15-page paper.

The asset management paper and presentation can be found on ACPA’s website, www.pavement.com. Click on Technical Information, then Papers & Reports, and then the Asset Management links. The asset management paper will come up in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, and the presentation in PowerPoint (.ppt) format.