

concrete solutions

for overlays

2008 bid letting demonstrates cost savings of concrete overlays

Thanks to concrete, a cost savings of \$88,000 was shown in the results of the March 2008 letting for an overlay project on Humboldt County, Iowa, Route C26. The low concrete bid for the 10 mile project was \$1,505,616.05 while the low asphalt bid was \$1,593,777.07. This is the latest data demonstrating the extremely high value of concrete overlays by way of long life, less maintenance, and lower construction costs.

The C26 project was let with two pavement options. For concrete, the design called for a 4" PCC overlay on a milled surface. The asphalt option included a 3" HMA overlay on 4" of cold-in-place recycled pavement. The concrete option brought two bids below the low asphalt bid. The \$88,000 savings equates to a difference of about 5%.

Concrete pavements have long been recognized for durability and lower life-cycle costs. Today, it is clear that concrete pavements are also the better value based on construction cost alone. The C26 example supports data from the Iowa DOT's Price Trend Index Report showing that concrete pavement prices have held the line against construction cost inflation with a modest 22% rise over five years, while asphalt pavement prices have risen 63% in that same time frame (2002-2007).

Today, more than ever, you can count on concrete to deliver the most economical construction and maintenance option for overlays.



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