



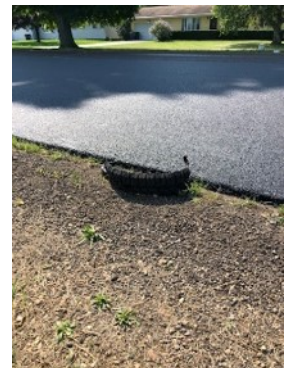
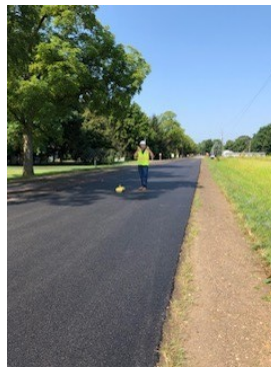
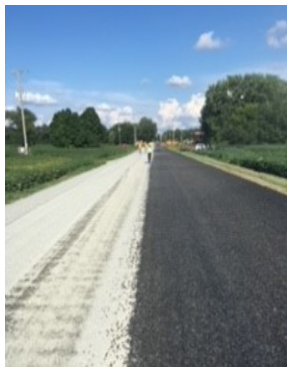
Press Release

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WHERE RUBBER HITS THE ROAD



“We would rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed”.

The Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) was awarded a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Scrap Tire Development Grant in Cooperation with Michigan Technological (MTECH) University. Estimated at 13,672 scrap tires to be recycled, the project took a lot of coordination, as it is an experiment. It was a global effort for a potential future process and market development. The project includes the use of new rubber technology never used before in the United States on W Avenue from the Schoolcraft Village Limits to



Portage Road with hot rubber chip seal and hot rubber thin overlay. There will also be two conventional applications as control sections.

Innovation does not come without complications and learning opportunities. The hot rubber chip seal trial beginning at Portage Road was the most challenging and took two days to accomplish. It was difficult for the asphalt distributor to properly apply the material. The hot rubber thin overlay was completed in one day. The asphalt mix was designed specifically for this project and placed at very high temperatures. It was successfully placed using typical paving operations.

There are many partners who worked on this project from Michigan, Arizona, and Portugal. We especially thank our crews and the RCKC team who all worked very hard to make this an overall successful experiment. Now time will tell.

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