Field and Laboratory Evaluations of Warm Mix Asphalt
NM13MSC-04

Budget: $90,000   Duration: 18 months

Project Summary
Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) is an asphalt mixture made with a wide range of enabling technologies (chemical and mechanical processes) that allow for production and placement at lower temperatures than Hot Mix Asphalt. National Asphalt Pavement Association describes WMA as “the future of flexible pavements” due to the multiple benefits identified in demonstration projects.

WMA technology was developed in Europe. Forty-eight states have specifications for WMA. For WMA to be successfully and confidently implemented by the state of New Mexico, it is extremely important that a thorough and comprehensive evaluation is conducted to ensure WMA performs in similar manner to Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) in New Mexico.

This research will enable the NMDOT to select the best WMA technology and determine if such technology will result in adequate mix performance with respect to moisture susceptibility, fatigue, and permanent deformation. If the WMA mixes perform adequately, the result will be more economical pavements. Lower placement temperatures are expected to improve compaction and densities which may help increase the life of asphalt pavements.

Anticipated Benefits
WMA may provide many benefits including, reduced paving costs, extended paving season, improved asphalt compaction, and increased hauling distances. WMA may improve working conditions by reducing workers exposure to fuel emissions, fumes and heat.

Project Deliverable
WMA Supplemental Specifications

Principal Investigator
To Be Determined

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