

CPAM Concrete Pavement Hall of Fame

U.S. 61 nears 50 years of service with single rehab

U.S. Highway 61 in the vicinity of White Bear Lake was originally constructed as a 9-in doweled concrete pavement in 1953-1954. No other work was done on this pavement until 1972, when joint sealing work was performed.

From south of White Bear Avenue through Maplewood, this pavement has been maintained as a concrete-surfaced highway.

In 1987, after more than 30 years of service, a concrete pavement rehabilitation (CPR) project was performed. This project consisted of full- and partial- depth repairs at some joints. The project was then diamond-ground to restore a smooth, quiet ride to the pavement.

No additional significant maintenance work has been performed on the concrete since 1987 (although the asphalt shoulders require periodic attention). This pavement is now nearly 50 years old and is still serving the public well!

**U.S. 61 Concrete Pavement—
looking good after nearly 50 years!**



Welcome to the New CPAM Concrete Pavement “Hall of Fame” series. This series will run periodically in both the Concrete Conveyor and on our Website.

The section of U.S. 61 from White Bear Avenue north approximately two miles received an alternate treatment: it was overlaid with asphalt concrete in 1974. In 1982, after only eight years, the asphalt was milled and overlaid. In 1994, it was milled and overlaid again! And the current condition (shown here) suggests that it needs yet another mill and overlay treatment!

Which pavement treatment do you think was more cost-effective in carrying comparable traffic since 1974 – one concrete pavement restoration project or three (soon to be four?) asphalt pavement overlays? We know how we’d prefer to see our tax dollars spent!

**U.S. 61 Asphalt Overlays—
3 overlays in 28 years and looking rough.**

