

DULUTH, MINNESOTA SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2018



Pavement to Gravel Process

Dale C. Heglund, PE/PLS

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Depaying Reversion

Converting Distressed Paved Roads to Engineered Unpaved Roads

Pavement to Gravel Process



The #1 problem with a gravel road is:

It's not a paved road!

GRAVEL ROAD





GEORGE S. CLASON'S

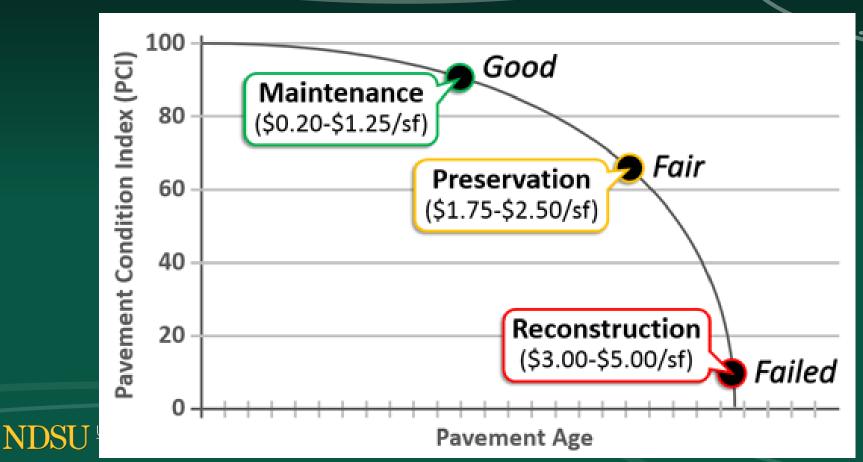
THE RICHEST MAN IN BABYLON



A 52 BRILLIANT IDEAS INTERPRETATION
BY KAREN MCCREADIE



Pavement Deterioration

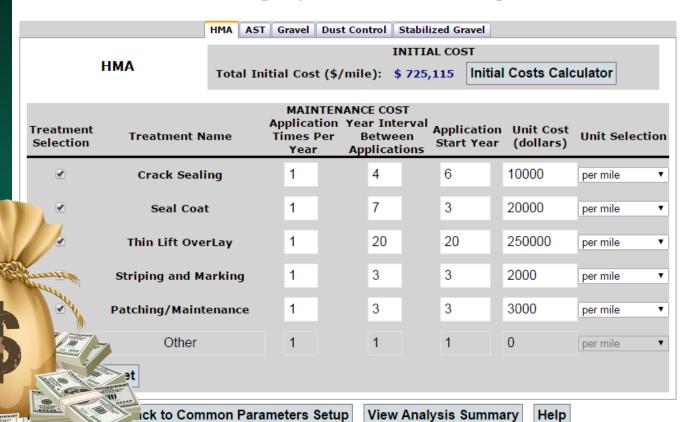




UPPER GREAT PLAIN TRANSPORTATION

Investment Strategies - Alternatives

Agency Cost Parameters Setup





PAVEMENT ENDS

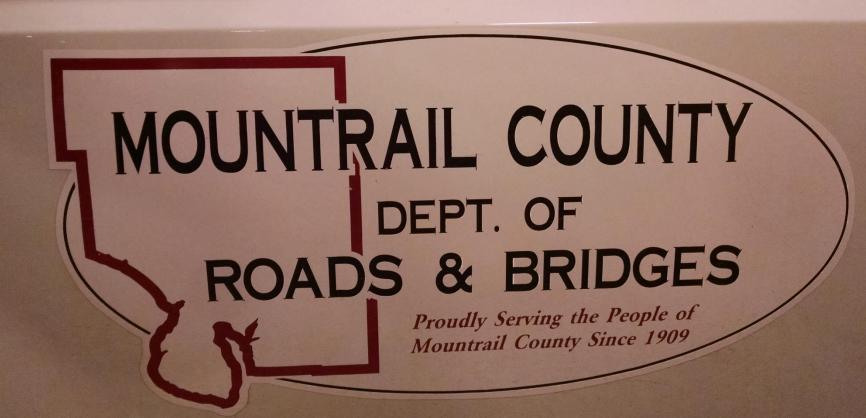
A North Dakota Success Story

by Dale C. Heglund, NDLTAP Director

Roadway development follows a logical progression: grade, gravel, and pave. But sometimes it's welcome and cost-effective to step back to gravel and replace the "Rough Road Ahead" sign with a "Pavement Ends" sign.

Some local roads should never have been paved. With others, conditions change, creating the need to evaluate the roadway surfacing and long-term strategies. Either way, the opportunity to convert a distressed paved road to an engineered gravel road is a viable option.

The local roadway network is the economic backbone of North Dakota. Of the 107,000 miles of roadway in the state, the

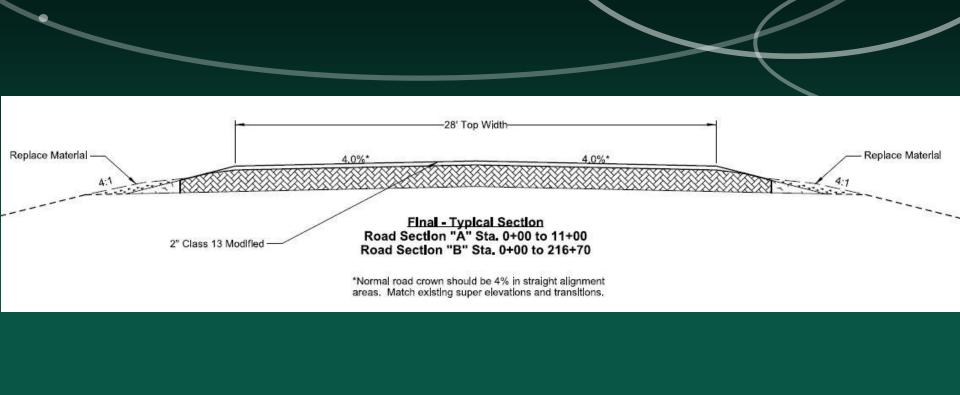












302-P01 AGGREGATE SURFACE COURSE CL13: Aggregate Surface Course CL 13 shall be placed after full depth reclamation and surface is shaped to 4% normal crown. Aggregate quantity is estimated at 37.4 Tons per Station. An additional 704 Tons is included for approaches.

Provide a Class 13 Aggregate with a Plasticity Index (PI) ranging from 4 to 9 and meets the requirements of Section 816.02, "Miscellaneous Aggregates".

The PI is to be determined in accordance with test ND T90, "Determining the Plastic Limit and Plasticity Index".

A contract adjustment will be administered if the PI is not within the specified range. The Engineer will determine the PI adjustment factor if the limits for PI are exceeded, as calculated:

PI Adjustment Factor = 5 percent x (Average of 3 Samples – Allowable PI)

If the PI is determined to be greater than 12, the material will be rejected.



Material Breakdown





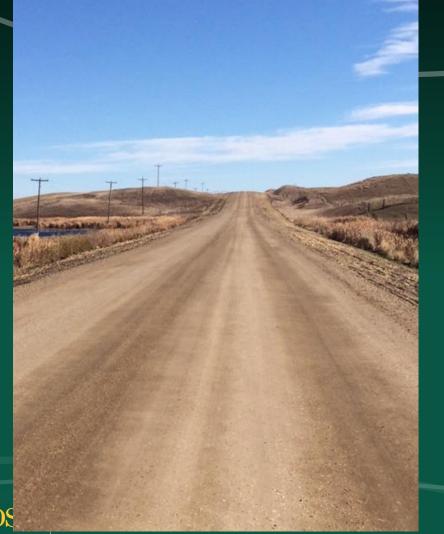






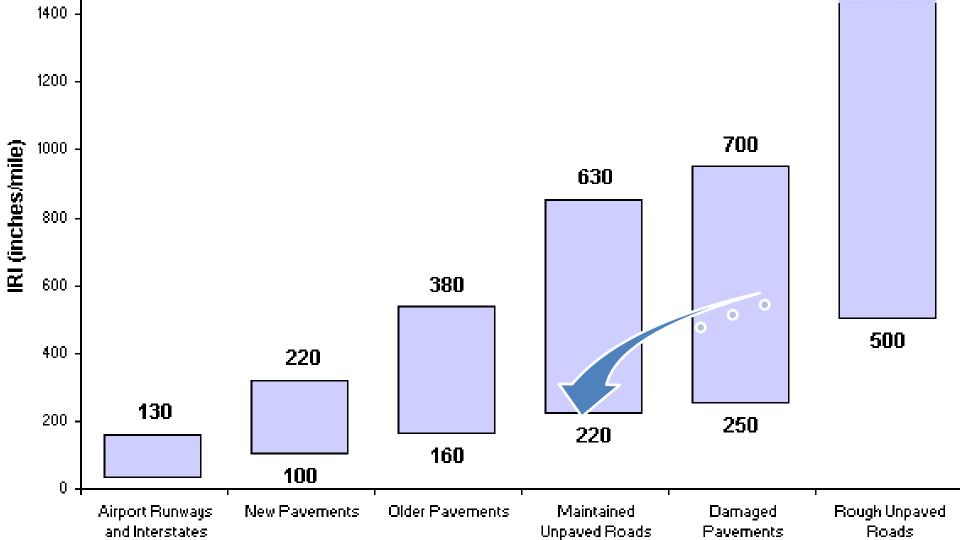








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Air Force Comments

... steadily deteriorating condition

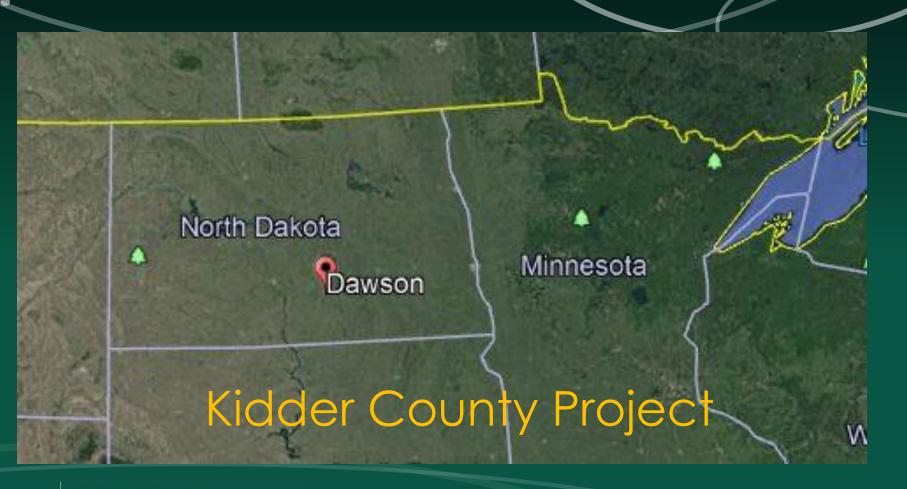
... condition below a gravel road

... condition may affect their mission

... very happy with the results

... no longer a concern that the road may adversely affect their mission









BLENDED BASE COURSE: The blended base course shall consist of an uniform blend of the new Aggregate Class 3M (2"), existing bltuminous pavement (approx. 2.5"), and gravel base (approx. 6"). The existing asphalt pavement material shall be processed to provide a nominal 1" maximum size. The unit price bid for "Blended Base Course" shall include all costs for sizing, blending, laying, and compacting the blended base.













North Dakota's County/Local Road Network: 97,600 miles

6,600 miles are paved 59,000 miles are gravel surfaced 32,000 miles are unsurfaced



Conversion Comments

Initial public response – Why???
... ADT, Safety, Cost, Ride...
Proper selection => pleased customers

NDLTAP - technical resource







RESEARCH REVIEW: Roadway Reversion

by Andrew Wrucke, NDLTAP Technical Expert

The rural road network is just as critical to the nation's economy as the Interstate system, but a large percentage of the sealed low volume part of it (carrying less than 400 vehicles per day) is way past its use-by date. Long gone are the days where funding was available to overlay or reseal at optimal intervals, which begs the question whether some of the very lightly trafficked roads (less than 100 vpd) should have been surfaced in the first place if funds to reseal them after 8 to 10 years were unlikely to be available. Hindsight is of course easy, but rather than dwell on what should have been, we have to explore what can we do with what we have. Continue trying to maintain them with band-aids, or "upgrade" them to an engineered unpaved standard? Agencies nationwide are increasingly favoring the latter option because these roads are easier to maintain, and chemical treatments can be used to keep the surface material in place and reduce dust to the extent that they can resealed at a later date with minimal additional cost if sustainable funds become available.

 David Jones, Associate Director, University of California Pavement Research Center Chair, Transportation Research Board Standing Committee on Low Volume Roads



Previously, low construction and maintenance costs for pavements allowed local jurisdictions to pave large portions of their roadway network. More recently, construction and maintenance costs for asphalt roadways have risen faster than inflation and, more importantly, funding. Because of this, local roadway jurisdictions are un-paving, or reverting roadways back to an engineered gravel surface. The process has been used in more than half of the states in the United States, in Canada, and in Finland. It requires proper equipment, materials, final roadway grading and full public support to be successful. This document will review current practices including some researched best practices from NDLTAP, FHVMA, and other sources.



Several factors must be considered before a roadway is reverted back to gravel. This includes the current roadway condition, safety of the corridor, the social aspects of the roadway (commerce, residents) and traffic volume. Jurisdictions must make their own decisions on the best surface for the roadway based on these factors and their road management plan. Often, the economics and the future maintenance needs lead to the decision for a roadway reversion. One tool to help with the economic analysis of future maintenance is the Local Road Surface Selection Tool (https://dotsc.ugpti.ndsu.nodak.edu/SurfaceSelection/).

Reversions take two forms, active and passive. Active reversions are where a local jurisdiction makes the decision to change a paved roadway to gravel using construction equipment and design techniques to produce an engineered final product. In passive reversions, the paved roadway is allowed to deteriorate to an unpaved state, and then is maintained as a gravel or unpaved roadway surface. Passive reversions happen slowly over time, while active reversions are usually a local construction project which turns an entire segment of roadway to gravel.

NDSU

UPPER GREAT PLAINS
TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

NCHRP SYNTHESIS 485

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Converting Paved Roads to Unpaved



A Synthesis of Highway Practice

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

The National Academies of

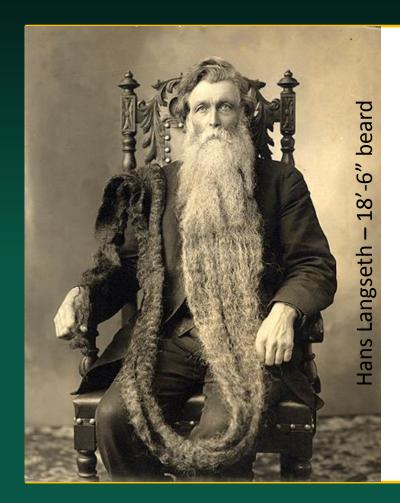
SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE

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