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Whitetopping an Existing Asphalt Pavement with Polyolefin Fiber Enricher PCC			d Click on link to open report Work Plan Construction <u>Evaluation</u> Final	8. Project No. 9. Project No. 10. Project No.
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14. Supplementary Notes				
15. Abstract				
Purpose and Need Rehabilitation techniques and methods are being considered by highway agencies as our roadway system ages. One technique is whitetopping. This technique involves the application of a thin lift of portland cement concrete (PCC) over an existing asphalt roadway. The use of PCC as an overlay material may have some advantages such as control of reflective cracking and rutting. PCC, however, is brittle in nature and has a tendency to crack in tension. Plastic shrinkage cracks can form before the concrete hardens as well as the formation of stress cracks after hardening. The whitetopping concept is based on the belief that when the PCC is bonded to the underlying asphalt the two layers behave as one composite layer. The bonding of the two pavement layers into one composite layer should force the neutral axis in the PCC slab downward. This will tend to cause the PCC to act more in compression and reduce the tensile stresses placed on the PCC. To improve PCC properties the addition of reinforcing fibers are sometimes added to attempt to create a more ductile failure mechanism, to increase toughness, and to prevent the formation of large cracks.				
Objective The objective of this study is to determine if a thin lift of PCC, reinforced with polyolefin fibers, can serve as an alternative to a conventional bituminous overlay of existing asphalt pavement.				
Scope Items that will be monitored and evaluated on the whitetopping experimental section will include: What are the distresses in the pavement, what is the overall pavement condition, have the fibers affected the ride of the PCC section, do the fibers show an ability to control reflective cracking, comparison of performance of the fiber reinforced PCC section to adjacent bituminous overlay sections. The evaluation period for this study will be approximately five years with evaluations annually. The project is located on the crossroad at the Steele interchange on Interstate 94 which is near reference point 193.				
Summary The cracks in the polyolefin fiber concrete mix have increased drastically in severity since the last review. It appears some maintenance may be required in the three 25' sections to prevent any further breakups and improve the overall ride. It was apparent to the review team that in general, as the joint spacing increases, the performance of the concrete decreases. Joint spaces of less than 15' were performing at a satisfactory level. However, panels with joint spacing of greater than 15' showed several signs of cracking, faulting, and spalling. There was also a noticeable difference in performance between the NB and SB lane. This is thought to be a result of different lane thickness. The NB lane with a 4.5" section of PCC seems to be performing much better in all panels less than 25' in length. Other than the three 25' panels, the NB lane has experienced almost no distresses while the SB lane has experienced cracking, faulting, and moderate spalling. The subgrade modulus also seemed to have an impact on how the roadway was performing. It seemed that most of the distresses found before construction were concentrated in the same location as the 25' panels. Upon collecting FWD data it was discovered that this area had some of the lowest soil moduli in the entire test section. The field team believes that subgrade problems should be repaired prior to constructing a whitetopping project				
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