



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo Receives \$200,000 Grant for Roads Rehabilitation

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Board of Supervisors recently approved plans for road rehabilitation projects on county road segments totaling six miles which will include the use of rubberized asphalt concrete. These projects are partially being funded by a \$200,000 grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board's (CIWMB) Targeted Rubberized Asphalt Concrete Incentive Grant Program. The total cost for these projects is estimated at \$2,660,000.

Rubberized asphalt concrete (RAC) is made by blending rubber from recycled waste tires with asphalt, and then applying the mix to road surfaces. RAC uses approximately 2,000 tires per lane mile, thus diverting those tires from the landfill. A two-inch layer of the material can save up to \$50,000 per lane mile compared to a four-inch thick layer of conventional asphalt. Studies have shown RAC to be a long-lasting replacement over conventional asphalt concrete, and one that significantly reduces the level of traffic noise. RAC also resists cracking and retains its original color so that road markings are more clearly visible.

RAC has been successfully used in paving projects by state and local transportation agencies throughout California and Arizona. The CIWMB's RAC incentive program helps first time RAC users cover the difference in costs of using RAC in lieu of conventional asphalt paving and is funded from the \$1.75 fee the state collects on the sale of each new tire in California.

California produces more than 40 million waste tires annually. Although approximately 75 percent of this amount is recycled, the state faces the challenge of dealing with roughly 10 million surplus tires annually in which the majority ends up in landfills, and some in illegal stockpiles. Over the past few years California has recycled nearly 10 million waste tires in RAC paving projects.

“County roads are being increasingly used as urban thoroughfares,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mariko Yamada. “We appreciate CIWMB's financial assistance in helping us reduce unnecessary waste in our landfill and, at the same time, improve road conditions for our residents and visitors.”

Road rehabilitation projects in Yolo County in 2007 using RAC will include: County Road (CR) 22 (from the Yolo Shortline railroad crossing to 5,600 feet south of CR 124); County Road 27 (from CR 93 to CR 94 and from CR 95 to CR 97); County Road 85 (from 4,530 feet south of CR 16A to 750 feet north of CR 16A); County Road 89 (from State Highway 16 to CR 23); and County Road 101A (from CR 29 to the City of Davis).

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