

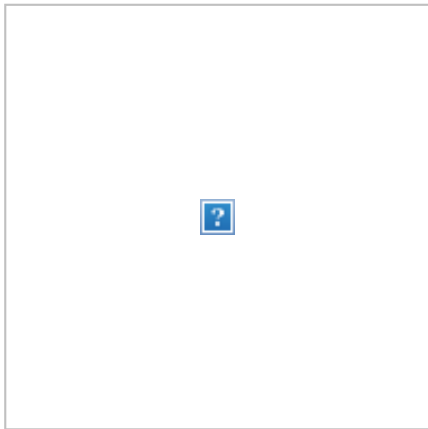


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Beasley Appointed ODOT Director

James Beasley, PE, PS, has been appointed Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation by Governor Ted Strickland. He assumes that position as of March 5, 2007. Beasley has been the Brown County Engineer since 1980 and is a civil engineering graduate of the Ohio State University.

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Governor announces ODOT budget proposal

Governor Strickland has introduced the proposed ODOT biennium budget bill for fiscal years 2008 and 9. Funding for the DOT included in the bill is proposed to be 3.2 billion in FY 2008 and 3.0 billion in FY 2009 and includes funding for transit, rail and aviation.

TRAC funding for major new highway construction is proposed at \$747 million for FY 2008 and \$588 million for FY 2009. The governor has expressed concerns over the way in which the TRAC prioritizes projects and the extent to which the TRAC is over-committed. The bill requires a revision of the TRAC policy to "require the prioritization of projects using a method that includes criteria that promote economic development, encourage the preservation and rehabilitation of existing transportation infrastructure, the expansion of capacity for all modes of public transportation, the reduction of traffic congestion in urban areas, the preservation and rehabilitation of airports, the

improvement of rail freight services, the enhancement of safety, and land use decisions that reflect the requests of local communities.” (Lines 121-130)

The bill includes authority for increased transportation bond sales. The Governor has stated that use of this authority is contingent upon future revenues and expected highway funding. The bill continues the process of phasing the State Highway Patrol off the gas tax for funding. The text of the bill can be found at:

http://www.obm.ohio.gov/budget/operating/executive/0607/LSC-127_LB_0669_1.pdf

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SAFETEA-LU appropriations

Congress has at last approved the highway funding bill for FY 2007. The approved bill provides the full \$39.1 billion that was called for in SAFETEA-LU. The president was expected to sign the bill promptly.

Next fiscal year may not be so generous. The Bush administration has proposed a highway funding level of \$39.6 billion for FY 2008, which is short of the 40.2 billion called for in SAFETEA-LU. Legislative effort will be required to restore full funding. To that end NAPA has scheduled its Legislative Fly-in for May 8 and 9, 2007.

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Workshops, Seminars and Conferences

March 20 – 21, 2007: FPO, 45th Annual Meeting and Equipment Exhibition

The Flexible Pavements of Ohio 45th Annual Meeting and Equipment Exhibition is returning to the Hilton Hotel at Easton. Register now to attend the convention of the asphalt industry in Ohio. Full details and registration are available at http://www.flexiblepavements.org/events.cfm?event_ID=88

March 26 – 27, 2007: Asphalt Construction Workshop

Jim Scherocman presents his comprehensive, two-day, asphalt construction workshop at Sharonville, Ohio. Full details and registration are available at http://www.flexiblepavements.org/events.cfm?event_ID=57



Jim Scherocman

Many other industry events are also scheduled. See: <http://www.flexiblepavements.org/events.cfm> for additional educational opportunities.

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Ohio Asphalt Winter 2007 Issue

Watch your mail for the Winter Issue of Ohio Asphalt Magazine. This issue features articles on Warm-mix Asphalt, Perpetual Pavement, and the advantages of recycling RAP.

View back issues of Ohio Asphalt magazine at http://www.flexiblepavements.org/ohio_mag.cfm

Sign up for a free subscription at http://www.flexiblepavements.org/sign_up_news.cfm

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New Campaign Contributions Law

A law further limiting campaign contributions, enacted late last year, is going into effect in April. The new law restricts the amounts of campaign contributions, who can contribute and prohibits those who exceed the limits from holding contracts, whether bid or un-bid. Read the language of HB 694 at http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=126_HB_694

Or, easier, attend the Flexible Pavements Annual Meeting and listen to a presentation on the subject from an expert.

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O TEC – Call for Abstracts

The 2007 Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (O TEC) is scheduled October 23-24, 2007. Abstracts are currently being accepted for O TEC through March 31, 2007. Guidelines: Abstracts are to be 150 words or less and should include abstract title, author name, affiliation, address, phone number and e-mail. Abstracts are to be e-mailed to:

terri.barnhart@dot.state.oh.us Watch the O TEC website www.otecohio.org for regular conference updates. Questions - Contact Terri Barnhart, O TEC Administrator at (614) 387-3102.



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NAPA Award Winners

Congratulations to those member companies who received NAPA's "Quality in Construction" awards at the recent NAPA convention in San Francisco:

- Barrett Paving Materials, Inc., Midwest South Region, for US 50, River Road
- John R. Jurgensen Co., twice, for CR 25 in Dayton and US 50 in Cincinnati
- Shelly and Sands, Inc. for US 30
- The Shelly Co., Twinsburg, for SR 250

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APA administration moves to NAPA

As of March 1, 2007 coordination and fulfillment for the Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) is returning to the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA). These functions have been performed by the Asphalt Institute since 2003. Karen Faber, a civil engineer, will serve as APA Coordinator at NAPA.

Contact information for the APA as of March 1st is;

Asphalt Pavement Alliance

5100 Forbes Blvd.

Lanham, MD 20706-44017

Fax: 301-577-1486

The APA's phone number and email address remain the same:

Phone: 1-877-APA-0077

Email: publications@asphaltalliance.com

Visit <http://www.asphaltalliance.com> for more information on the Asphalt Pavement Alliance.

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SmoothPavements.com

The Transtec Group has created a website as a source of information on state DOT pavement smoothness specifications in the US. The site contains a wealth of information regarding smoothness measurement. Visit: <http://www.smoothpavements.com:80/>

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Employment Opportunity

Flexible Pavements of Ohio is seeking to fill the position of Pavements and Materials Engineer. The Pavements and Materials Engineer provides the FPO membership with technical assistance; represents the interests of the industry before ODOT, OEPA, and various other federal, state and local government agencies; assists pavement owners in the development of HMA specifications and facilitates the development of new materials and specifications; facilitates member involvement in FPO through communication of issues between the membership and agencies regarding paving materials, paving techniques, paving specifications, environmental regulations, etc.; represents the interests of the membership on affiliated industry committees and associations such as OTEC, ASHE, ASCE, etc.; develops training curriculum and provides instruction; assists in the development of technical and/or promotional publications.

Among other qualifications the person applying for this position must be an engineer registered in the State of Ohio. It is intended that this person will be on-board on or before March 31st, 2007. Interested persons can send their resume' to Clifford Ursich, PE and reference Pavement and Materials Engineer position, Flexible Pavements of Ohio, P.O. Box 16186, Columbus, Ohio, 43216. Electronic submissions can be made to cliffursich@flexiblepavements.org Information received will be treated in a confidential manner.

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Are you on our mailing list?

If you received this directly from FPO, you are. But, if this was forwarded to you by a colleague, you may

wish to subscribe yourself. In addition to this e-news letter, FPO publishes a quarterly magazine, Ohio Asphalt. To add your address to the distribution lists for the e-news letter and/or the magazine, send a request with your address information to flexpave@ameritech.net or use the request form on the website at http://www.flexiblepavements.org/sign_up_news.cfm.

This E-mail newsletter is distributed by opt-in only, by Flexible Pavements of Ohio. To be included on the distribution you must have requested to be included. Conversely, if you wish to be removed from this distribution, just let us know at flexpave@ameritech.net.



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Flexible Pavements of Ohio
Phone - (614) 221-5402
Toll Free in Ohio - 1-888-4HOTMIX (446-8649)
Fax - (614) 221-0394

e-mail: info@flexiblepavements.org