Major Issues in the World of Asphalt in Florida



Jim Musselman Florida Department of Transportation

Major Issues:

- 1. Increasing construction costs
- 2. Materials shortages
- 3. FDOT response to 1 & 2
- 4. Pavement Stuff





Florida

- Population: Over 15.9 million
 - 4th Largest State in the US
 - Increases by 1,200 people per day
- Roadways: 114,000 miles
- State Highway System
 - 12,000 miles of roadway
 - 44,000 lane miles
 - Carries 66% of all traffic in state





Florida

- Florida Department of Transportation
 - \$3 billion construction budget
 - Approximately 500 Construction contracts/year
 - Approximately 5.2 million tons hot mix asphalt (HMA) placed per year
 - Total amount of HMA statewide = 19 million tons







Asphalt in Florida

- 100% Superpave since 1998
 - Follow AASHTO requirements
 - 9.5, 12.5 & 19.0 mm NMAS
- Open-Graded Friction Courses
 - High speed, multi-lane roadways
- Construction acceptance:
 - Percent Within Limits (PWL)
 - Based on Verified Contractor data





Major Issue No. 1:

Cost Increases





Construction Price Increases

Pay Item Group	Unit	2003	2004	Change	2005	Change
Earthwork	CY	\$4.96	\$4.38	-11.7%	\$7.24	+65.3%
Asphalt	TN	\$55.93	\$61.63	+14.3%	\$75.81	+21.9%
Concrete (Structural)	CY	\$550.56	\$564.12	+2.5%	\$749.87	+32.8%
Steel (Structural)	LB	\$1.06	\$1.48	+39.6%	\$1.57	+6.1%
Steel (Reinforcing)	LB	\$0.52	\$0.75	+44.2%	\$0.89	+18.7%



Causes for Major Cost Increases

- Construction market saturation
 - "Hot" Market, both public and private sector
 - Additional work recovering from 8 hurricanes
 - Labor shortages
 - Material shortages
- Fuel cost increases



Causes for Major Cost Increases

- Materials price increases (earthwork, asphalt, concrete, steel)
- Trucking cost increases
- Project requirements:
 - Hours of operation
 - Night work
- Not enough bidding competition



Contract Lettings

		Avg				
		Number of				Percent of
		Bidders	Contracts	Contracts	Contracts	Contracts
Fiscal	Number of	Per	With No	with One	with Two	w/0, 1, or 2
Year	Contracts	Contract	Bid	Bid	Bids	Bids
2002/03	243	4.3	0	7	27	14%
2003/04	238	3.9	0	20	43	27%
2004/05	240	3.5	4	11	51	28%
2005/06*	96	2.9	1	6	32	41%

^{*} Data through November 2005 Letting



Asphalt Related Costs

Current costs of aggregate, binder and hot mix asphalt are at an all time high!

- Binder: 1.44 \$/gal (330 \$/ton)

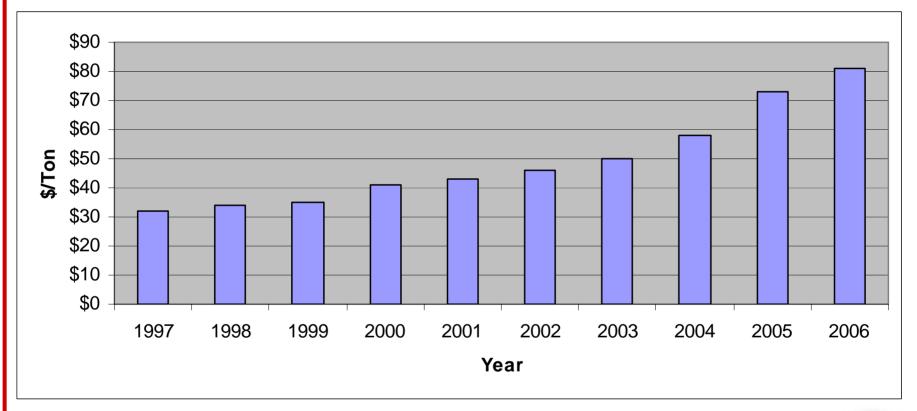
- Aggregate: 18 - 23\$/ton

- HMA: 81 \$/ton



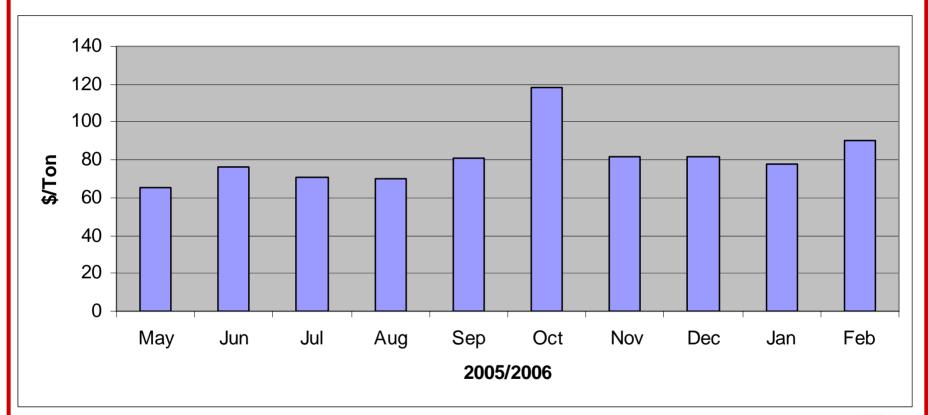


Rising Cost of HMA in Florida



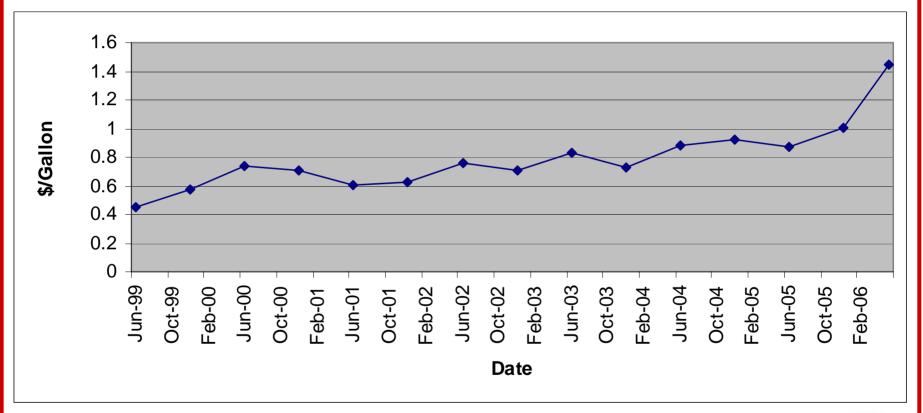


HMA Costs 2005/2006





Binder Costs







Major Issue No. 2:

Material Shortages



Aggregate Shortages

- High demand
- Superpave impact
 - Dramatically reduced usage of Central & North Florida Limestone
 - Dramatically increased usage of out of state materials
 - Granite: Georgia & Nova Scotia
- Transportation issues:
 - Rail, shipping & trucking
- Lake Belt Mining Ruling?

Aggregate Sources





Asphalt Binder Shortages

- Increased demand for asphalt in the eastern US
 - Warmer winter
- Reduced Supply:
 - Reduced asphalt production Gulf Coast
 - Katrina
 - Economics
- Limited storage facilities in Florida
 - Rely on terminals at ports
 - No refineries
- Peninsular Florida out of binder since January '06

Binder Sources





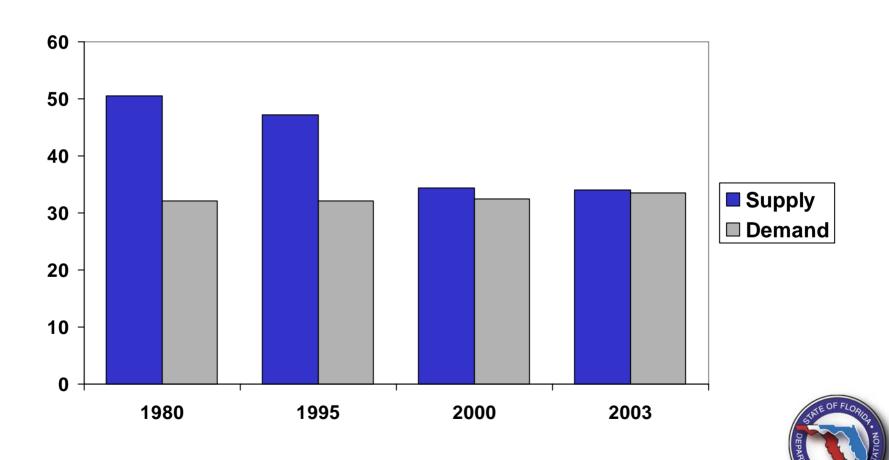






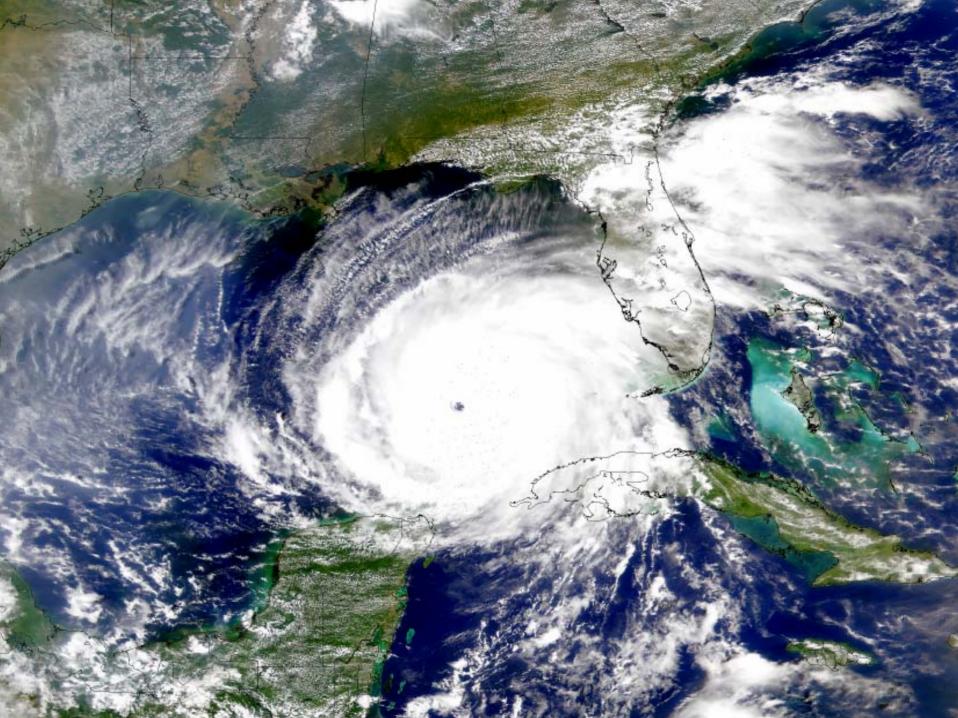
Historical Asphalt Supply/Demand

Millions Tons - Liquid



Gulf Coast Oil and Natural Gas Operations Alabama Mississippi Louisiana Texas Refineries. Crude Oil Terminals Federa Platforms % from Gulf of Mexico Total U.S. Gulf of Mexico Oil production (million b/d) 1.5 5.5 27% Natural Gas production (bcf/d) 10.6 52 20% Refinery Capacity (million b/d) 8.1 17 48% of which in LA and MS 3.1 17 18% Crude Oil Imports (million b/d) 10.8 60% of which into LA and MS ports 2.5 10.8 23%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration





Coming to Florida?

Bring some rock....or binder!

Major Issue No. 3:

FDOT Response to Issues1 & 2



FDOT Actions



- Construction specification changes
 - Removing unnecessary restrictions
 - Simplifying (dropping PWL)
 - Opening up materials usage
- Looking at developing "strategic reserves" of aggregate
 - Purchase & stockpile aggregate for use on FDOT projects
 - Help to develop aggregate delivery infrastructure
- Considering FDOT owned & operated mines



FDOT Actions

- nt ...
- Considering Regional Asphalt Plant Facilities
 - Property owned by FDOT
 - Permitted for asphalt plant
- Considering reducing night work
- Hot In-Place Recycling
- Generic HMA specification



Major Issue No. 4:

Actual Pavement Stuff





- Value Added Asphalt Pavements
 - 3 year performance "guarantee"
- Pavement Noise
 - UCF Research contract to look at typical pavement noise in Florida
 - Wayside/OBSI/CPX
 - Determine if FDOT participates in QPPP



- Smoothness
 - Working on an incentive/disincentive spec
 - High speed laser profiler
 - Not sure how to handle bumps...
- Friction
 - Porous Friction Course in Jacksonville
 - PEM 11/4"
 - Bonded Friction Course
 - Novachip and variations
 - Friction data
 - Granite/Limestone issue



- Performance:
 - Cracking still primary mode of failure
 - Longitudinal wheelpath
 - Top-down
- Looking at improved materials
 - Binder
 - Gradation





- Lack of experience
 - Losing experience at all levels
 - In all areas
 - Design/Construction/Materials
 - All entities:
 - Contractor/FDOT/Consultants/FHWA
 - Big problem....



