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Funding Available to Support Safe Travel on Roadways

Application deadline is April 1, 2025

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb 4, 2025) – Today, Team Kentucky announced that funding is available to support Kentucky communities interested in improving local roadways while also supporting the environment. Grant applications are being sought for road projects that utilize rubber-modified asphalt, which incorporates rubber from finely ground waste tires. Applications must be received by April 1, 2025.

"Rubber-modified asphalt can be a great way to promote sustainability and improve road quality," said Brian Osterman, director of the Division of Waste Management in the Energy and Environment Cabinet. "Rubber-modified asphalt incorporates recycled tire rubber into the asphalt mix, which can enhance the durability, flexibility and performance of road surfaces all while reducing our environmental impact."

Counties or metro governments can apply for funding for either chip seal or thin asphalt overlay projects. Chip seal is a pavement surface treatment that combines one or more layers of liquid asphalt with one or more layers of fine aggregate. Asphalt overlay consists of a new layer of asphalt applied over an existing road surface. Rubber-modified asphalt can reduce road noise and long-term maintenance costs and increase the life of the roadway.

The money for these projects comes from the Kentucky Waste Tire Trust Fund, which receives \$2 from every new tire sold in the commonwealth. In addition to promoting the development of markets for recycled waste tires, the fund also pays for waste tire collection events, tire dumpsite clean-ups and grants for counties to manage waste tires.

The Energy and Environment Cabinet will be performing testing and long-term monitoring to assess the effectiveness of rubber-modified asphalt in Kentucky. As a condition of the grant funding, counties agree to pay for the application of conventional chip seal or thin overlay on a road in their county with similar characteristics to allow for comparison between conventional and rubber-modified asphalt.

For more information, contact Gary Logsdon at (502) 782-6405 or Gary.Logsdon@ky.gov. Visit our website at eec.ky.gov.