



PW-5

Recycling asphalt pays off

Mountain Village, Colorado (1,000), used to contract out its asphalt road repairs to a company whose dump trucks took an hour and a half to reach the village. This was expensive and forced the village to repair its roads only when the vendor could accommodate its needs. But last year, the village purchased hot-in-place asphalt recycling equipment. The village uses this equipment to do its own asphalt repairs for considerably less than it used to spend.



Implementation notes

Leadership/staffing The Mountain Village road crew of six or seven staff members has sufficient expertise and availability to maintain the village's roads using the new equipment.

Timeline The public works department began studying different ways to save on its road repair budget in March 2002. The village purchased the asphalt recycling equipment and began using it in the summer of 2002.

Budget/funding The village spent \$80,000 on its recycler and a few hundred dollars to stockpile parts that are likely to need replacement. Costs for road repair used to be \$2.50 a square foot, and averaged \$60,000–75,000 a year. With the recycler, the annual road maintenance costs are closer to \$20,000–25,000 a year.

Program description With Mountain Village's dramatic shifts in weather, high mountain location, and heavy commercial traffic, its roads require a great deal of patching. Contracting out the village's road maintenance was expensive because of the village's distance from the repair facility and the costs of the asphalt. Now, the village's road crew cuts the old asphalt out and loads it in the asphalt recycler's hopper with some additives to renew the aged pavement. The machine heats the asphalt to over 300 degrees in about 10 minutes, before the

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asphalt is rolled out. In 2002, the village used the machine to patch 30,000 square feet of road. Patching roads requires some additional asphalt in addition to the recycled material, but the village can obtain the additional asphalt needed from county and other stockpiles because asphalt is so difficult to dispose of. The machine is easy to use but recycling asphalt is a dirty process, so the machine must be kept scrupulously clean. Over time, the road crew has learned how to maintain the recycler, and maintenance costs have been relatively low.

Results Having the capacity to repair its own roads allows Mountain Village to repair its roads on its own schedule instead of waiting for another company to find the time. The recycler also made it possible for the village to do some long-term patching on mild winter days when costly temporary patches would have been the only previous option. Finally, the village is able to reuse the asphalt that is removed during patching instead of trucking it out.

PW-6

Clean Newark campaign

The city of Newark, New Jersey (273,500), Clean Newark Campaign is designed to improve the city's appearance. The campaign added 83 new workers to the city's cleanup teams that lead large-scale sweeps to clean up vacant lots and public areas, remove graffiti and illegally dumped items, and secure or demolish abandoned buildings. As part of the campaign, the Newark Housing Authority employs 144 public housing residents to maintain the development in which they live and report problems to ensure a quick response. Children who join the Clean Newark Kids Corps pledge to make Newark a better place in which to live and go to school. Along with a membership card, the children receive a membership kit that lists things children can do to keep the city clean. The city hopes that the campaign will result in savings for taxpayers; increased property values; improved self-esteem; and a safer, healthier environment for children.

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