



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

February 24, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
HRDI-30

Mr. William H. Temple
Chairman
Transportation Research Board
Long-Term Pavement Performance Committee
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Temple:

Thank you for the January 2 letter report of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Committee's findings and recommendations from your October 29-30, 2013, meeting.

I appreciate your leadership as Committee Chair and the Committee's feedback. We highly value the exchange of ideas between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Committee and consider this to be an important part of the success and longevity of LTPP. We remain committed to meet regularly and to seek your comments and suggestions. The committee's feedback has guided the FHWA on LTPP, which remains a critical component of our infrastructure research and technology program.

The American Society of Civil Engineers' LTPP International Contest on Data Analysis continues to be an important outreach and learning opportunity for student engineers. The FHWA shares the Committee's concern with the lack of response to the 2013 contest. As a result of our review of the contest guidelines, we made several changes for the 2014 contest which we rolled out at the 2014 TRB Annual Meeting and expect to achieve increased participation. The FHWA does not plan to re-introduce financial awards in the near future. We will brief the Committee on the revised guidelines for the 2014 contest and plan to discuss ideas for enhancing awareness and participation with the committee at our next meeting.

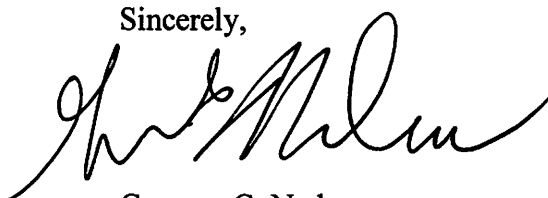
As part of an LTPP research project, we developed the summary traffic loading statistic referred to as Relative Pavement Performance Impact Factor in the letter report. We are currently evaluating this statistic for implementation as part of our product development efforts. Your subsidiary committee, the TRB Expert Task Group on LTPP special activities, is participating in this review process. We will brief the Committee on the status of this statistic and future plans for implementation at our next meeting.

The FHWA supports forensic testing of LTPP test sections as they go out-of-study. We actively encourage States to pursue these activities and provide contractor support to record data and prepare forensic reports. We will brief the Committee on the status and future plans for forensic studies at our next meeting.

We were pleased with the public release of the LTPP InfoPave™ during the 2014 TRB Annual Meeting. Participants had a high level of interest in the software and its benefits. The FHWA appreciates the role the Committee played in the development and review of the InfoPave™ software and look forward to your continued involvement as we refine and update this system.

Again, I thank you and the members of your Committee for your continued support and dedication to the LTPP program. Should you have any questions regarding this response or LTPP, please feel free to contact Mr. Michael Trentacoste at (202) 493-3999 or Mr. Aramis López at (202) 493-3145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory G. Nadeau', written in a cursive style.

Gregory G. Nadeau
Deputy Administrator

cc: Mr. Bud Wright